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OPEC To Hold 'Emergency Meeting' 2 May

BK2104033190 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0305 GMT 21 Apr 90

[Text] Jakarta, April 21 (OANA/ANTARA)—Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita has confirmed that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will hold an emergency meeting in Geneva on May 2 this year.

All OPEC member countries will attend the meeting, Minister Ginanjar said here late Friday [20 April].

"The meeting will, in principle, make a review of OPEC's oil production rate which is believed to have surpassed the set quota," he added. The present OPEC oil production estimatedly stands at 23.5 million barrels per day, while demand is only 22.5 million barrels per day, the minister explained.

OPEC members, he said, should agree with corrective actions on oil production. "The oil price is feared to keep on plummeting if such an agreement cannot be reached," he added.

Minister Ginanjar recently said that within the last two weeks, the OPEC basket price has gone down to 15.20 U.S. dollars per barrel, a decrease by 3 U.S. dollars compared to the reference price of 18 U.S. dollars per barrel.

The plan to hold the OPEC emergency meeting was disclosed by OPEC President Sadek Boussena, and the meeting was previously expected to be attended by OPEC Price Controller Commission comprising eight countries including Indonesia.

The emergency meeting will postpone the OPEC conference which was scheduled to be organized on May 25, 1990. The conference has been rescheduled for May 26 this year.

Japan

Muto Briefs Reporters on Talks With Bush

OW0105201190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1514 GMT 1 May 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, May 1 KYODO—U.S. President George Bush and Japan's International Trade and Industry Minister Kabun Muto agreed Tuesday to address bilateral and multilateral issues through dialogue. The two leaders also agreed that the two countries are fully committed to implementing structural reforms spelled out in an interim report on the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII).

Muto told reporters after the White House meeting with Bush that he hailed the President's leadership in fighting against protectionism. Bush last week decided against renaming Japan as a priority country under the Super 301 provision of the 1988 trade act.

Muto said he and the President also reaffirmed Japan-U.S. cooperation in helping developing countries in Asia and Africa establish their economic base.

The MITI minister handed Bush a letter from Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, the content of which was not disclosed.

Muto also met with Bush's National Security Affairs Adviser Brent Scowcroft.

"It's important for Japan and the U.S. to carry out what we wrote down in the SII report," Muto said he told the agreeing U.S. President. The visiting Japanese minister also said Bush emphasized the importance of a successful conclusion of the Uruguay round of multilateral trade negotiations, his top trade priority.

Scowcroft told Muto the prevailing favorable sentiment in the U.S. toward Japan stems from "expectations for the future" as well as Japanese efforts to settle sectoral trade disputes and address structural issues.

Muto said he explained Japan's plans to assist countries in Eastern Europe and Latin America in their economic recovery after years of repressive rule. As in his talks on Monday with Secretary of State James Baker, Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher and Trade Representative Carla Hills, Muto told Bush and Scowcroft that Japan is prepared to cooperate with the U.S. in helping developing countries achieve economic growth without jeopardizing their environment.

Despite Japan's promises to implement agreements with the U.S. on the Super 301 cases of supercomputers, satellites and forest products, Sen. John Danforth said he remains skeptical. "I am skeptical," he told KYODO NEWS SERVICE at the White House before meeting with President Bush. "We have seen before agreements that look good on paper but don't turn out in reality."

Danforth, a Missouri Republican, is one of the key authors of the 1988 trade law. He arranged a breakfast meeting with Muto on Monday.

Muto will meet with former U.S. Envoy to Japan Mike Mansfield, Michael Boskin, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, and House Speaker Tom Foley before leaving for a four-way trade ministers' meeting in California with the U.S., Canada, and the 12-nation European Community Wednesday through Friday.

Quadrilateral Trade Ministers Meeting Previewed

OW0205082490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0732 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] San Francisco, May 1 KYODO—Japan's International Trade and Industry Minister [MITI] Kabun Muto arrived here Tuesday night to attend a quadrilateral meeting of trade ministers aimed at facilitating progress in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Talks.

Muto met with President George Bush and his top economic adviser Michael Boskin in Washington just before coming here to spend the night. Muto was very upbeat during his stay in the U.S. capital mainly because of the U.S. decision last Friday not to rename Japan as an unfair trading country under the Super 301 Provision of the 1988 U.S. Omnibus Trade Act. The provision calls for trade sanctions if negotiations with a country on a Super 301 list unfair traders fail to produce satisfactory results.

Muto will attend the four-way trade meeting with his counterparts from the U.S., the 12-nation European Community (EC), and Canada in Napa Valley near here from Wednesday through Friday.

At the White House meeting with Bush, Muto praised the President for taking leadership in fighting against protectionism in the U.S.

Muto told reporters he and Bush reaffirmed commitments by both Tokyo and Washington to implement measures to restructure their economies, as pledged in an interim report on the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII). He told Bush and Boskin, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, in separate meetings that it is "important to strike a balance between economic growth and environmental protection."

Boskin, a former Stanford University professor, told Muto that Japan's technology is important in achieving the objective, a Japanese spokesman said. He called on Japan to work together with the U.S. in fostering economic development in developing countries and protecting their environment at the same time, the spokesman said.

The four-way trade talks at the Silverado Country Club in Napa Valley have been described by Japanese and U.S. officials as the latest effort by the world's major industrialized economics to move the Uruguay Round of trade liberalization talks forward. Bush told the U.S.

Chamber of Commerce on Monday that success in the Uruguay Round is his "top trade priority."

Underscoring the importance of strengthening the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), he said, "Its rules on agricultural trade are far too weak, creating counterproductive pressures to subsidize farm exports."

Agriculture will figure prominently in the four-way conference, as it did during an informal ministerial meeting on the GATT-sponsored Uruguay Round in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, on April 19-20.

The U.S. and the EC agreed during their first ministerial meeting in Washington on April 23 to create working groups on measures to end distortions in global trade in agriculture.

Japan is also under pressure to make concessions in opening up its rice market, although Muto, a former agriculture minister, is expected to repeat Japan's unwillingness for now to lift its near-total ban on rice imports.

"We are all guilty on agriculture," Secretary of State James Baker told Muto on Monday. He said curtailing imports of agricultural products are hurting developing countries.

Trade representative Hills is advocating "more effective rules" in the Uruguay Round to address trade barriers, including Japan's import prohibition on rice and the EC's variable levies on imports of agricultural products and agricultural export subsidies.

Japanese officials said the trade ministers will also discuss the creation of a world trade organization, an idea advanced by Italy and Canada and generally supported by both Japan and the U.S.

Okinawa Governor Welcomes U.S. Troop Reduction

OW0205114490 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 20 Apr 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] The U.S. Defense Department has prepared and submitted to the U.S. Congress a report entitled "A Strategic Framework for the Asia-Pacific Region: Looking Toward the 21st Century." The report clearly states that troops will be reduced by 6,000, mainly of the U.S. Marine Corps units stationed in Okinawa, and that unnecessary bases will be returned at an early stage. Concerning this plan, Governor Nishime said on the afternoon of 19 April: "This is what we have been repeatedly demanding, and we welcome this decision by the U.S." Then, he reiterated the prefectural government's hope that actual names of facilities to be returned would be clarified soon.

Moreover, Governor Nishime stated: "In working out the third promotional program, as one of the important tasks for the prefectural government, we shall prepare a plan to use the land formerly used by military bases, based on the assumption that a large-scale reduction and overall review of the U.S. bases will be made in the near future, so that we shall not be forestalled." Thus, he explained his determination to seriously tackle the issues on expected large-scale return of U.S. bases in Okinawa [USFO], and on the use of this land.

On the other hand, if the bases are returned, the prefectural government will be required to take comprehensive administrative measures, including plans to deal with land owners and workers originally employed by the U.S. Forces in Japan [USFJ]. Thus, the prefectural government thinks that the Japanese Government should also actively deal with these tasks, holding that "the tasks of promoting proper use of this land, and taking measures to deal with former USFJ employees are also very important," and that "they have to be taken into consideration simultaneously."

At a regular prefectural assembly session in February, Governor Nishime touched on the preparation of a plan to use the former base land, and disclosed his views on this issue for the first time in an official forum. He said: "I shall ask relevant city, town, and village governments to work out plans, during fiscal 1990, for use of the land where the Onna-son communications facilities, the Naha military port, the Futenma Air Station, and other base facilities are located."

Moreover, the Governor said: "We shall consult with the cities, towns, and villages regarding the utilization plans submitted by the Gun-Ten-Kyo [the Association for Promotion of Diversion of Land Formerly Used as Military Bases] concerning the use of the land where 20 base facilities are located." Thus, he explained his intention to actively tackle plans for using land expected to be returned, while taking into consideration changes in the international situation. Regarding the basic policies of the prefectural government's management, the Governor said: "While cooperating with city, town, and village governments, and other concerned organizations to work out, at an early date, plans for the use of returned land, I would like to improve the system so that it can appropriately cope with future changes in the situation." He also indicated his understanding that the detente between the United States and the Soviet Union would have an impact on the Far East, and that, as a result, the "epoch-making" return of the USFO bases might be realized in the near future.

The Gun-Ten-Kyo (with Governor Nishime serving as chairman) has worked out a list of requests concerning the return of bases, including 12 facilities located in eight cities, towns, and villages, their total land area covering more than 2,000 hectares. If they are actually returned, it would be difficult for the current administrative structure of the prefectural government to deal with the use of land formerly used as bases. It seems that a large-scale organizational reform is needed to promote the use of this land so that it can act in concert with city, town, and village governments.

The recent U.S. Defense Department report clearly shows that surges of reorganization and reduction of the

U.S. Forces have reached all the Asia-Pacific region, including Okinawa. In order to adequately respond to rapid changes regarding base issues, it will be necessary for the prefectural government to extend the special law on promoting the development of Okinawa. At the same time, on the basis of this law, the prefectural government should positively try to include in the third promotion program, such comprehensive measures as plans for using the returned land, for settling employment issues for former USFO employees, for promoting urban development programs, and for developing the local economy, and it should also try to review the administrative system.

Okinawa Party Leaders View Pentagon Report

OW0105035190 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 20 Apr 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Excerpt] **Plan Heartily Welcomed by Prefectural Residents**

Chiken Kakazu, secretary general of the Okinawa prefectural association of the Liberal Democratic Party: According to the U.S. Defense Department's report to the U.S. Congress, the department plans to reduce the U.S. troops by a large margin during the next ten years. It is expected that U.S. troops in Okinawa will be reduced by 5,000 to 6,000, mainly involving the ground and air forces, during the first stage. Concerning the land used for military bases, it is reported that the department plans to rearrange or integrate it as much as possible through consultations with landowners. If all these plans are carried out, prefectural residents will heartily welcome them. The plan also conforms to the prefectural government's program to develop the prefecture by creating an international resort area in Okinawa. Since a more concrete plan for the return of the land used for military bases has been announced, our party will urge the administration to work out without delay a more detailed program for utilizing the land formerly used for military bases. We will support the promotion of such a program.

Eliminate Military Bases To Build a Peaceful Okinawa

Koei Neho, chairman of the Okinawa prefectural council of the Japan Communist Party: Prefectural residents hope that the bases will be withdrawn as soon as possible without waiting until 2000 so that Okinawa can become a place where people can live without fear. A major trend in the world is the growing demand for the abolition of military blocs and the promotion of disarmament. In this connection, the U.S. military bases, which are the source of various evils, should be withdrawn, and we must build a peaceful Okinawa where there will be no military bases or exercises. However, the current plan does not indicate any change in the basic strategy. It is merely a readjustment reflecting U.S. economic and financial conditions. Even if part of the military bases are returned to local residents or various units are partially reduced, the nature of the military bases will not change. In this connection, we must further strengthen our struggle to demand the withdrawal of the bases and the abolition of the Japan-U.S. security treaty.

Urgent Task of Working Out Plans for Utilization of Former Bases

Satoru Nakasone, secretary general of the Okinawa prefectural headquarters of the Japan Socialist Party: The troop reduction of U.S. Marine Corps units stationed in Okinawa based on the U.S. Defense Department's report to the U.S. Congress conforms to the international trend of defusing tension, and we heartily welcome this plan. Our prefectural residents demand the "withdrawal of the bases" and the "creation of a peaceful Okinawa." Instead of being reduced, the troops should be withdrawn. This withdrawal should be carried out immediately and not delayed until the year 2000.

Nevertheless, the contents of the report indicate that "the strategic framework for the Asia-Pacific region in looking toward the 21st century," and the concepts of the "frontline strategy for the nation's defense," and of "playing the role of gendarmerie of the world" have not changed. What is important is that the government, the prefectural government, must take the initiative by expressing its views and making efforts in this connection. The urgent task now is to reject the anticipated reinforcement of functions of the remaining units, and to work out plans for utilizing the land formerly used for military bases. The Socialist Party will do its best to tackle these problems. [passage omitted]

U.S. Construction Firms' Reluctance Alleged

OW0105144590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1409 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 1 KYODO—Major U.S. construction firms have not shown themselves eager to win contracts in Japan despite a bilateral agreement in 1988 opening the market to them, according to a survey by a Tokyo-based consulting company. The survey also showed that U.S. firms have found there are few real barriers to their entering the Japanese market, according to the consulting firm, Industry Focast Inc.

In the 1988 accord, Japan promised to designate 17 public works projects as special cases for providing opportunities for U.S. companies to enter the allegedly closed Japanese market. But the survey, in which Industry Focast polled the chief executives of the top 50 U.S. contractors, obtaining answers from 47, found very few U.S. companies have actually made applications to get contracts for these projects, although 12 American contractors have received Japanese construction contractor's licenses since the agreement.

The number of U.S. companies that have applied to take part in bidding for each of these projects averages less than one, according to the poll.

Seventeen companies out of the 47 that responded said they have already established footholds in the Japanese market, but few of them have a local staff of more than five. They are also doing little in the way of public relations activities in Japan, the survey showed.

Only two companies said they are planning to advance into the Japanese market in the future.

Among the 17 U.S. contractors that are already doing business in Japan, six said they feel some forms of trade barriers exist in the market. But more than half of them cited such unintentional differences in culture or language as barriers, and only one company depicted the market as being closed to foreigners.

Moreover, only one firm pointed to bid-rigging, which was the main complaint by the U.S. Government in the bilateral construction talks, as a barrier to the market.

The survey also indicated that a majority of U.S. construction firms apparently place more emphasis on the domestic U.S. market than on overseas markets in their business strategy. About 85 percent of the respondents said they put priority on the U.S. market in their marketing activities.

Most of the companies that are active in Japan regard joint ventures with Japanese firms as essential, according to the survey. About 85 percent of such firms said they are considering some form of joint venture with Japanese firms, it said. The remaining 15 percent have no plans to take part in actual construction work in Japan.

Japan and the U.S. are expected to review the results of the 1988 accord shortly.

Japan's Construction Ministry is confident that the agreement has worked quite well so far, based on its own recent research. A ministry official said, "The spirit of the pact is being faithfully followed."

U.S. firms have received 26.2 billion yen worth of work in the specially designated public works projects since the 1988 agreement, according to the ministry. When private-sector works are included, U.S. contractors have obtained 66 billion yen worth of orders in the Japanese construction market in the past two years.

During the same period, Japanese construction companies won 301.3 billion yen worth of orders in the U.S. market, but only 65.7 billion yen of the total was from U.S. companies, with the remainder being from Japanese companies operating in the U.S., according to the ministry.

Securities Firm To Set Up U.S. Institute

OW0105125790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 1 KYODO—Nomura Securities Co. announced Tuesday it will set up a research institute in the United States specializing in the study of investment technology with a U.S. professor world-renowned for his expertise in the field.

Nomura will establish the joint venture called Nomura Rosenberg Investment Technology Institute with Barr Rosenberg, a professor reputed for his work in computerized investment in bonds and securities, and the development of investment technology, Nomura officials said. The institute, capitalized at 3 million dollars, will be based in San Francisco and will employ about 10 researchers.

The Nomura Group hopes the creation of a research and development base in the U.S., which has gone the furthest in the field of investment technology, will help boost its research and development program, the officials said.

Settlement of 3d-Generation Koreans Issue Lauded

OW0105004590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1503 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] New Delhi, April 30 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Monday welcomed a Japan-South Korea agreement granting permanent residency to third-generation Koreans living in Japan. Kaifu said he is pleased that Japan and South Korea could produce an outcome satisfactory to both sides.

Kaifu, in a statement issued in New Delhi, said the agreement paved the way for South Korean President No Tae-u's visit to Japan in late May.

The Japanese prime minister, currently in New Delhi on a five-nation Asian tour, said he will continue efforts to elevate the bilateral relationship to one that is forward looking and globally oriented.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama of Japan and his South Korean counterpart Choe Ho-chung reached the agreement following two rounds of talks in Seoul on Monday. The accord calls for eliminating the fingerprinting requirement for third-generation Korean residents and granting them the automatic right of permanent residency.

Minister Leaves for Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia

OW0105131390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0955 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 1 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama left for a six-day visit to Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia on Tuesday, hours after returning from a three-day visit to South Korea.

Nakayama will fly to Prague via London on Wednesday to meet Czechoslovakian Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier. He will also go to Belgrade on Thursday for talks with Yugoslavian Foreign Secretary Budimir Loncar.

The foreign minister will return to Tokyo on Sunday.

Bangladesh Embassy Denies Aid Scandal Claims

OW0205124090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—The Bangladeshi Embassy has denied allegations regarding a scandal involving Japan's financial assistance to the country. The embassy said there are no illegalities in the process of awarding of contracts for procurement of emergency rescue boats under the Japanese debt-relief grant assistance.

An amount of 2.5 billion yen was allocated to the Bangladeshi Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation in 1988 for procurement of 520 rescue boats as part of the 5.2 billion yen debt-relief grant assistance from Japan.

Four Japanese firms submitted quotations of prices for boats in a bid in August 1989. Kinsho-Mataichi Corp., a trading company in Tokyo, tendered a bid of 2.3 billion yen and was the only bidder falling below the bid budget of less than 2.5 billion yen.

However, the contract was awarded to Marubeni Corp., another major trading house, which had the second-lowest bid of 5.9 billion yen, in December 1989. The Bangladeshi Government subsequently decided to reduce the number of rescue boats to be procured to 275.

The Embassy said an evaluation committee found the offer by Kinsho-Mataichi technically unsuitable. An officer of Kinsho-Mataichi said he cannot accept the Embassy's explanation, because his company's offer fulfilled the required specifications.

The Japanese Embassy in Dhaka submitted a letter of inquiry to the Bangladeshi Government on the process of awarding the procurement in December last year.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told the Diet on April 23 that the Government is pursuing an alleged scandal involving the procurement of rescue boats in Bangladesh.

M.A. Awwai, press counselor at the Bangladesh Embassy, said Koyo Industries Co., manufacturer of rescue boats for Kinsho, does not have a dockyard and that Koyo's experience in manufacturing FRP boats was questioned. The officer of Kinsho said Koyo will design boats and supervise three subcontractors for the shipbuilding.

The officer at Kinsho, listed in the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, said it is strange that the Embassy questioned the finances and shipbuilding capability of Koyo because his company will take full responsibility for the contract.

OECF Disburses Record Amount of Aid in 1989

OW2804090190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1434 GMT 26 Apr 90

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—The governmental Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) said Thursday it disbursed a record 659.3 billion yen in loans and other funds to developing nations in fiscal 1989, a 5.0 percent increase over the previous year. In dollar terms, the amount distributed to the Third World was also a record, growing 3.5 percent to 3.94 billion dollars in the year ended March 31, the OECF said.

The OECF is a government agency providing soft loans to developing nations. It also invests in such nations, serving as a major channel through which Japan provides its Official Development Assistance (ODA).

The OECF said it agreed to disburse funds totaling 857.7 billion yen during the fiscal year, down 22.0 percent. OECF officials said the decrease resulted from a rush of related applications from recipients in March, the final month of the fiscal year, which they said made it slow to approve such applications.

Of direct loans agreed upon in fiscal 1989, 85.6 percent were so-called untied loans, or loans which borrowers can use for the purchase of goods and services other than those made or offered by Japanese firms, the OECF said. The portion of untied loans was up from 74.4 percent in fiscal 1988, reflecting Japan's efforts to increase such loans to promote development in the Third World.

By region, Asia retained its position as the biggest borrower of OECF funds, accounting for 77.5 percent of the total, though its share was down from 80.7 percent in fiscal 1988.

Other shares were 4.2 percent for the Middle East, up from 3.6 percent, and 4.9 percent for Latin America, also up from 2.2 percent.

With 21.4 billion yen loaned to Poland, Eastern Europe appeared on the list of loan recipients for the first time, with a 2.5 percent share, the OECF said. The loans to Poland were part of a package of economic aid Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu pledged during his trip to the East European nation last January to help promote its economic reforms.

North Korea

Further on Nationwide May Day Celebrations

Kim Yong-nam Addresses Banquet

SK0205084590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0818 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—A banquet was given at the People's Palace of Culture on the first of May in celebration of the centenary of May Day, the international holiday of the working class of the whole world.

Invited to the banquet were foreign diplomatic envoys here and foreign delegations and guests staying in Korea.

Cho Il-min, chief of the mission of the "South Korean National Democratic front" (Hanminjon) in Pyongyang and members of delegations and home-visiting groups of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and overseas Koreans staying in socialist homeland were present on invitation.

Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier, spoke at the banquet.

Noting that a century has elapsed since the working class and revolutionary people of the whole world celebrated the first of May as a militant holiday demonstrating the might of the unity of the international working class, he said: during this historical period of a century the working class and other toiling people of the whole world have waged an energetic struggle for sovereignty, independence and socialism against the arbitrariness of capital under the uplifted banner of unity.

In Korea the revolutionary cause of the working class has steadily advanced and emerged victorious. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song set out on the road of revolution in his early years, found the undying chuche idea and strengthened the independent subject of the revolution with the working class as the hard core and paved triumphantly the road of the communist movement and national liberation movement.

The Korean working class and other people under the wise guidance of the great leader triumphantly pushed ahead with the cause of sovereignty, independence and socialist construction and thus converted Korea, once backward, into a strong socialist power, independent in politics, self- sustenant in the economy and self-reliant in national defence, with advanced socialist system and into the eastern fortress of peace and socialism in a short period of history.

Today our working class and people are vigorously struggling to accomplish the cause of modelling of the whole society on the chuche idea under the guidance of the party, regarding the single-hearted unity of the revolutionary ranks as a powerful weapon.

They have boundless pride in and attachment to the unique chuche-based socialist system of our style they chose and established by themselves and actively struggle to consolidate and develop the system and give fuller display to its vitality.

In his New Year address the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward an epochal proposal for national reunification to pull down the concrete wall and ensure free travel between North and South and complete opening between them. For its reasonableness and justness the proposal enjoys full support and welcome of the entire Korean people and the world progressive people.

The Korean working class and other people will further strengthen unity and cooperation with the world progressive people including those of socialist and non-aligned countries under the idea of independence, peace and friendship and fully support the struggle of the peoples of all countries for sovereignty, peace, national independence and social progress.

The Korean working class, together with the working class of the whole world, will surely build a peaceful, prosperous, independent and new world free from domination and subordination on the earth, stressed the speaker.

Officials Celebrate With Workers

SK0205084790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0833 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—Senior party and government ofnicials of the DPRK joined workers in significantly celebrating the centenary of May Day, the international holiday of the world working class, at key industrial establishments.

Among them were O Chin-u, Yon Hyong-muk, Yi Chong-ok, Kye Ung-tae, Chon Pyong-ho, Kang Song-san, So Yun-sok, Choe Kwang, Han Song-yong, Hyon Mu-kwang, Hong Song-nam, Kim Pok- sin, Cho Se-ung, Hong Si-hak, Pak Nam-ki, So Kwan-hui, Kim Yun-hyok, Kim Hwan, Kim Chang-chu and department directors of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea, chairmen of commissions and ministers of the Administration Council.

Sport and amusement games, round-table talks with labour heroes and labour innovators, mass dances and picnics and other functions were organized on May 1, following meetings and performances of workers' art circles on April 30 to mark the centenary of May Day at the Kim Chaek iron an steel complex, the Chollima steel complex, the Hwanghae iron and steel complex, the Ministry of Yongsong machine industries, the Komdok mining complex, the Nakwon machine complex, the Sunchon vinalon complex, the Musan mining complex, the Anju district coal mining complex, the Sangwon cement complex, the Kumsong general tractor works, the Sinuiju textile mill and other industrial establishments.

The senior party and government officials significantly spent the holiday of the working class participating in colorful functions with the workers and encouraging them.

Party Members Attend Performance

SK0205081190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0800 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—A performance was given at the February 8 House of Culture Tuesday to mark the centenary of May Day, the international holiday of the working class of the whole world.

Appreciating the performance together with working people in Pyongyang were Chong Chun-ki, Choe Tae-pok, Kim Chung-nin, Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the central committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party Yi Kye-paek and senior officials of party, power, administration and economic bodies and public organisations.

The audience included Cho Il-min, chief of the Pyongyang mission of the "South Korean National Democratic Front" (Hanminjon), delegations and home-visiting groups of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and koreans from the Soviet Union, China and Americas staying in the socialist homeland.

Invited to see the performance were foreign diplomatic envoys and embassy officials here and foreign guests staying in Korea.

Colorful numbers including a chorus of "Song of the Korean working class" were put on the stage of the performance which began with a chorus of "Song of May Day".

The works gave an impressive representation of the invincible might of the working class and working masses of the whole world who are driving forward the development of human history and building an independent new world under the banner of unity and happiness of the korean working class and other working people full of optimism who enjoy an independent and creative life to their heart's satisfaction with pride in being the master of state and society and performer of heroic feats.

At the performance the artistes gave a vivid portrayal of the revolutionary will and indomitable spirit of the Korean working class who are dynamically accelerating the march of the 90s, effecting a new great revolutionary upswing in socialist construction with the might of single-hearted unity under the leadership of our party, holding in high esteem the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience for its high ideological and artistic value.

Editorial Marks Centenary

SK0105092290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0900 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 1 (KCNA)—All newspapers here today carry editorials on the centenary of May Day.

On this occasion, NODONG SINMUN recalls with great pride the fact that our working class and other people have made a great contribution to the international cause of working class through their worthwhile struggle and extends firm militant solidarity with the working class and the revolutionary peoples of all countries.

The working class of the world have demonstrated their dignity and might as the most independent and revolutionary class to emancipate themselves and hew out their destiny with their own efforts and correctly led the revolutionary cause of the working masses as the leading class of the revolution over the past century since May Day was celebrated worldwide.

The daily says:
Holding high the banner of the anti-imperialist struggle for independence, the working class and other people of Korea won a proud victory through their energetic struggle for independence, sovereignty and socialism, thus making great contributions to the international cause of working class. All the successes, achievements and experiences gained by our working class and other people under the guidance of the party and the leader are immensely valuable and proud and they constitute a great contribution to the international cause of the working class.

Historical experiences of our revolution show that workers are able to discharge their mission and role in the revolution und construction only when they fight rallied behind their party and the leader.

Noting that it is an important task of all the working class and other people in the North and South to struggle for national reunification, the daily stresses:

The workers and other people in the North and South will check and frustrate at any cost with the concerted efforts of the nation the splittists' treacherous "northern policy" and their moves for "separate entry into the United Nations," both aimed at creating "two Koreas," and will certainly achieve the cause of national reunification.

The daily continues:
The Korean people will in the future, too, steadfastly struggle against imperialism and further strengthen international joint action in the struggle, upholding the banner of the anti-imperialist struggle.

Unity and militant solidarity are a powerful weapon of the working class and a noble ideal of May Day.

The workers and parties of all countries should intensify international unity and solidarity on the principles of chajusong and mutual respect for the common purpose of independence against imperialism.

It is also important to strengthen each national contingent.

The Communist and Workers' Parties can lead the revolutionary cause to victory only when they firmly prepare the internal forces of the revolution by awakening and organizing broad sectors of working masses in keeping with the changed class structure of society.

Our party and people will remain boundlessly faithful to their national and international duties and make energetic efforts for the complete victory of socialism, the independent reunification of the country and the accomplishment of the cause of making the whole world independent under the leadership of the party and the leader, holding high the revolutionary banner of the chuche idea.

MINJU CHOSON editorially calls for strengthening the unity of the world working class and promoting the cause of independence against imperialism.

Workers Greet May Day With Increased Labor

SK3004220390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1514 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—The working people in Korea are greeting May Day with big successes in their work.

The builders throughout the country are creating a new "speed of the 90s" in the construction of major objects including the Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer Complex and the housing construction for 50,000 families in Pyongyang.

The constructors of the capital city have completed the houses for hundreds of households in the second-stage project of Kwangbok Street and are now carrying on the groundwork of houses in the Nangnang Street far ahead of schedule.

The workers in mining and metal industries have reinforced equipment and actively introduced advanced methods to boost production.

The successful 1,500,000-ton blasting at the Musan Mining Complex opened a broad vista for considerably increasing ore output.

The Sangnong Mine completed a shaft pit for developing the depth and thus increased the transport capacity 5 times.

The Chollima Steel Complex has increased the output of steel and rolled steel respectively 70 and more than 60 percent as against the same period of last year.

30 odd forestry stations in the forestry domain fulfilled ahead of schedule their assignments for the first half of the year.

A vigorous drive for increased transportation is in full swing in the railway transport field.

Especially, the Western Railway General Bureau is daily transporting 13,000 more tons of freight than before.

Signal successes are also reported from the power, chemical, building-materials and light industrial domains.

Editorial Hails 'Superior' Socialist System

SK0205090190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0853 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today editorially calls for higher display of the pride and honour of living under the most advantageous socialist system.

The pride in the superiority of the socialist system is the important ideological and mental trait which the revolutionary people should have, the editorial says, and goes on:

The socialist system of our country is the most advantageous man-centred society where the great chuche idea has been applied. Ours is socialism of chuche which our people chose and built by themselves under the banner of the chuche idea and th most advantageous society of people where the working people are the masters of everything and all things of society serve the popular masses.

Incomparably great is the pride of our people who lead an independent and creative life to their heart's satisfaction as the true masters of the state and society under the socialist system of chuche unique in the idea, theory and method of guidance.

What is important in deeply cherishing the pride in living under the most superior socialist system is to have the unshakable determination to carry the cause of socialism to accomplishment under the leadership of the party.

The wise leadership of the party and the leader is the main source of our people's pride in the socialist system.

To bring the superiority of the socialist system and the reactionary nature and corruption of capitalist society home to the people is important in making them bear deep in mind the pride in living under the most superior socialist system.

Article Praises Kim Chong-il for Leadership

SK0205090590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0858 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today dedicates a signed article to the 15th anniversary of the publication of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il's work "On consolidating the revolutionary forces and improving the party work as required by the present situation."

The article entitled "Highly important guideline to consolidate internal revolutionary forces" says:

The work elaborates on consolidating the political and material forces of the Korean revolution, improving the method and style of party work and establishing a revolutionary way of life throughout society.

What holds an important place in the idea and task set by the work is to consolidate the internal forces of the Korean revolution.

The party and revolutionary ranks are basic in the internal revolutionary forces. The might of the party and revolutionary ranks is, in other words, the might of unity, politico-ideological might. Invincible is the strength of the people closely rallied behind the party and the leader as one.

The victory of the revolution depends, in the long run, on who wins over larger numbers of people.

It is a consistent fundamental principle of our party to rally broad segments of people closely behind the party.

Inscribed in the emblem of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] are a hammer, a sickle and a writing-brush. This eloquently shows how wisely the WPK has led the work of rallying the entire people including the workers, peasants and intellectuals behind the party.

It is thanks to the correct guidance of the party and the leader that the most solid and pure politico-ideological unity ever in the world has been achieved in Korea. The workers, peasants, intellectuals, students, people's army soldiers and all other people wholly entrust their destinies to the party and think and act in accordance with the party's idea and will on the basis of their belief and ethics.

100-Day Science, Technology Festival Successful

SK3004222090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—The Fifth National Science and Technology Festival was held in Korea successfully for 100 odd days from January 9.

According to Cho Chong-sop, director of a department of the Central Committee of the Korean General Federation of Science and technology, hundreds of thousands of scientists, technicians, workers, peasants and overseas Koreans participated in the festival with tens of thousands of papers of scientific researches and technical innovations and invention. Festival prizes were awarded to 350 of them and state prize to 90.

Highly estimated were the development of semiconductor automatic control mechanism for 125,000 kva [kilovolt-ampere] hydro-electric generator and its introduction and the development of the lineal integrated circuit of the fm stereo receiver and many other proposals.

The paper on the new deep prospecting method and prospecting technology by Associate Doctor Yi Kun-yong of Kim Chaek University of Technology drew deep attention of many specialists. By developing physical survey technology whereby it is possible to prospect tens of kilometer underground he helped find several promising coal deposites, making a particular contribution to the developmemt of mining industry of the country. The festival helped significantly enhance the zeal of the producers for developing science and technology.

More than 70 workers and farmers were awarded festival prizes this time. State prizes were awarded last year to many workers and technicians for their great contributions to the development of the nation's science and technology.

More than 1.5 million people have submitted over 410,000 valuable papers in the festivals annually held in Korea since 1986.

These papers greatly help toward the development of science and technology of the country and to the promotion of chuche-orientation, modernization and scientization of the national economy.

Heightened Shock Brigade Activities Urged

SK2804104090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Pyongyang April 28 (KCNA)—An important key to successfully carrying out vast economic tasks facing us today and creating the new "speed of the '90s" is to intensify the activities of technical innovation shock brigades, says NODONG SINMUN in an editorial today.

The "April 15 technical innovation shock brigade" movement is the strong motive force of the technical revolution involving broad masses including talented technicians and skilled workers throughout the country.

Improving methods of production, streamlining machinery and production processes, increasing production and practising economies on the basis of modern science and technology and thus making the existing economic foundations pay off—all this depends largely on the activities of technical innovation shock brigade members.

The main task facing the technical innovation shock brigades at present, the editorial says, is to actively introduce achievements of scientific researches and advanced technologies conducive to the chuche-orientation, modernization and scientification of the national economy and to briskly conduct the technical innovation drive for resolving scientific and technological problems arising in the endeavours for increased production and economy.

The technical innovation shock brigade members must increase the production of raw materials, fuel and power, actively strive to make an effective utilization of them and exert big efforts to make substitutes for the raw materials and fuel which are not found or in short supply in our country. And they must become pathfinders in streamlining machinery and equipment, realizing the comprehensive mechanization of production, automation, robotization and computerization and putting production processes and methods and management activities on a new scientific basis.

The editorial stresses the need to intensify the activities of the "April 15 technical innovation shock brigades" in all branches of the national economy and thus accelerate the development of the nation's science and technology, fulfil the Third Seven-Year Plan ahead of schedule and dynamically push ahead with the general march of the '90s.

New Mining Sites To Take Shape in Komdok

SK3004222690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—More than 120 new ore mining sites will take shape this year at the Komdok Mining Complex, a leading production base of lead and zinc of the country.

These deep mining sites will play a big share in carrying out the production plan of lead and zinc headings assigned to the complex this year.

The complex has already created four cutting sites 50 and 600 metres deep by concentrating efforts on the deep development of an unprecedented scale and opened the prospect of creating more mining site .

The lead and zinc of the complex this year will be 60 percent greater than the peak year.

'Beastly Suppression' of Hyundai Workers Assailed

SK0205085390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0847 GMT 2 May 90

["Sanguinary Brutality and Angry Protest"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today denounces the No Tae-u group for its beastly suppression of the strike of the workers of the Hyundai Heavy Industries in Ulsan.

The paper says in a signed commentary:

The fascist clique's brutal suppression of the struggle of the Hyundai Heavy Industries workers was aimed at trampling down the anti-U.S., anti-fascist struggle of students and the struggle of workers and other strata of people for existence and democracy which were gaining strength on the centenary of May Day, the international holiday of the world working class and with the approach of the tenth anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising and thus prevent them from developing into the second Kwangju popular uprising and the second June resistance and evade the crisis of their tottering rule.

But, it is not the pro-American reactionary forces but the popular masses, the subject of history, that lead the developments in South Korea.

Workers of all companies under "Chonnohyop" and students and people of all walks of life under "Chondaehyop" and "Chonminnyon" in South Korea are waging solidarity struggles with the determination to greet and celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising with struggle and resistance.

No Tae-u 'Clique' To Stage Second 'Bloodbath'

SK0205085790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0850 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u military hooligans reportedly placed the puppet cabinet under an "emergency system" Tuesday, defining as a "critical phase" the present situation caused by the expanding strikes of workers and the escalating struggle of unionists of the "Korea Broadcasting System" for democratization of the press.

Accordingly, the ministries and agencies of the puppet government have been put on "emergency duty" without a day of rest. The fascist clique, issuing this order, threatened that it would put down demonstrations and strikes at the initial stage by mobilizing "government power."

This shows that the No Tae-u military clique intends to stage the second kwangju bloodbath by harshly cracking down at the point of the bayonet on the elementary demand of workers, students and people for democratic liberties.

The "emergency system" is a kind of martial law system and a proof of the fascist clique's new reactionary offensive.

SKNDF Assails Crackdown on KBS Unionists

SK3004220490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Pyongyang April 30 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the "South Korean National Democratic Front" SKNDF (Hanminjon) in a statement on April 29 denounced the No Tae-u group for its crackdown on the unionists of the "Korea Broadcasting System" (KBS) who are struggling in demand of autonomy in making broadcasting programs and the resignation of the "government"-installed president.

The statement branded this fascist outrage of the puppet clique as an unpardonable institutional violence aimed at stifling freedom of the press, as an unbearable challenge to the independent right to trade union activity of the "KBS."

The No Tae-u fascist clan is a group of stranglers of the press outdistancing the "obliteration of the press" by the "Fifth Republic dictatorship," said the statement.

The struggle of the "KBS" unionists is a battle deciding the future of the press at the crossroads of revitalisation of democratic press or self-destruction, it notes, adding:

Dissident organizations of the national democratic movement should take active part in the "KBS" struggle, positively wage a solidarity struggle and closely combine it with the all-people struggle for the dissolution of the "Democratic Liberal Party" so as to win a decisive victory.

The No Tae-u fascist group must look squarely at the ardent desire of the entire people for independence, democracy and reunification and immediately give up the foolish intrigues to bring the "KBS" under its control with political pressure and physical violence. So Ki-won must resign at once as demanded by the "KBS" unionists.

International 'Fact-Finding Team' Departs

SK0205091190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0904 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—The international fact-finding team headed by Willy Burgeon, member of the bureau of the Belgian Socialist Party and chairman of the Vallon district committee of Belgium, which came to our country to verify the existence of the concrete wall built by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique in the area south of the Military Demarcation Line left Pyongyang today by air.

Labor 'Innovators' Meet Chinese Counterparts

SK0105114090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0910 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 1 (KCNA)—A joint friendship meeting of labour innovators of Sinuiju City and Dandong City of China was held in Sinuiju today on the occasion of May Day.

Sinuiju City greeting the centenary of May Day was decorated in festive attire.

A large number of working people enthusiastically welcomed labour innovators coming from Dandong City, China, with warm feelings of friendship, waving miniature flags of the two countries and bunches of flowers at the entrance of the Amnokgang Bridge.

The participants in the joint meeting laid first a basket of flowers at the statue of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in Sinuiju, sincerely wishing him good health and long life.

Present at the joint meeting together with labour innovators of the two countries were the chairman of the Sinuiju City Committee of Trade Unions and the president of the Dandong City Federation of Trade Unions of China and other officials concerned.

Speeches were exchanged there.

Recalling that labour innovators in Sinuiju and Dandong visited each other every year on the occasion of May Day, international holiday of the working class of the world deepening the friendly feelings, the the speakers said that meetings between labour innovators of the two cities provide a good occasion in further consolidating the unbreakable friendship and unity among the working classes and peoples of the two countries, which have a long tradition.

Silk banners and souvenirs were exchanged at the meeting.

Then, the labour innovators of the two countries deepened the feelings of friendship, dancing popular dances and playing colorful sports and amusement games.

The Sinuiju City Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea gave a party for the labour innovators from Dandong.

Anti-Chongnyon Act of Japanese Group Assailed

SK0205082590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0812 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—Representatives of the Niigata prefectural headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) on April 26 strongly demanded of the Niigata prefectural office and the prefectural police authorities of Japan a severe punishment of the right-wing organisation called "Nippon Seinensha" of Japan after it drove a loudspeaker car to the hall of the Niigata prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon and shops of Korean businessmen and slandered the DPRK and Chongnyon recently, according to a KNS report from Tokyo.

They branded the act of the right-wing organisation as a violent threat and obstruction to the activities of Chongnyon and business of Korean traders and manufacturers in Japan and charged that it was linked with the anti-DPRK, anti-Chongnyon campaign staged by the Japanese authorities under the pretext of "Pachinko scandal" last year.

They called a news conference and exposed the seriousness and injustice of the act.

Kim Yong-nam Congratulates Nicaraguan Minister

SK0205081790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0808 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 2 (KCNA)—Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Enrique Dreyfus Morales on his appointment as minister of foreign affairs and external cooperation of the Republic of Nicaragua.

The message expressed the belief that the relations between the DPRK and the Republic of Nicaragua would continue to develop in the interest of the two peoples.

Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, sent a message of greetings to Miriam Arguello on his election as chairman of the National Assembly of Nicaragua.

SKNDF Birthday Greetings to Kim Il-song

SK0105143190 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Message from the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front, SKNDF, to Kim Il-song on his birthday—read by announcer]

[Text] Great President Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation:

In the spring of struggle when a new turn is being unfolded in the anti-U.S. and antifascist patriotic movement for independence, democracy, and reunification under the banner of chuche, our fellow countrymen in the South significantly celebrate the birthday of the respected and beloved President Kim Il-song with overflowing pride and confidence.

With the sentiments of boundless respect and reverence from the patriotic masses from all walks of life, including our vanguard fighters, workers, peasants, youths, and students, the SKNDF Central Committee extends the highest glory and warmest congratulations to great President Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation, on the occasion of this auspicious greatest holiday.

With the respected and beloved president rising as a shining sun in Mangyondae in April, a new solemn history, in which our fellow countrymen, who had lost their country and had been suffering from contempt, were placed in the limelight as an independent nation with a great leader and numerous masses mourning under oppression began to advance in the times of independence, came to be unfolded.

The respected and beloved president has effected great achievements before the fellow countrymen and history, embroidering the protracted and glorious period, from the very day when he early embarked upon the road of the revolution up to the present, with sacred struggles for the prosperity and development of the fatherland and the freedom and liberation of the masses.

The respected and beloved president with extraordinary wisdom illuminated the path of pioneering the fate of the masses and reached the top of mankind's ideology by creating the great chuche idea—a man-centered philosophical idea for the first time in history.

The great president made the 20 years of the arduous anti-Japanese struggle shine with legendary exploits with the chuche idea as a guideline and by relying upon the strength of the masses. Also, he established a revolutionary tradition, which is worth taking pride in for numerous generations to come, and accomplished the cause of national liberation.

The respected and beloved president founded the party and the people's government in the liberated fatherland, enforced all democratic reforms, and originally realized the two-stage social revolution of establishing the most advanced and superior socialist system in the world thoroughly by embodying the chuche idea. Today he is also leading the revolution and construction for the complete victory of socialism along the single road of shining victory under the banner of chuche.

The true outlook of the North, in which the leader, the party, and the masses are advancing, sharing the same destiny, in single-hearted unity with a sense of revolutionary obligation and comradeship, is a rich outcome of the respected and beloved president's wise leadership and lofty love.

Furthermore, the respected and beloved president unfolded a future of boundless national prosperity and the smooth future path of the times by perfectly and flawlessly [wanjon mugyolhage] solving the problem of inheriting the chuche cause. This is a great achievement worth recording in golden letters in the history of mankind.

As they uphold in high esteem the respected and beloved president and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il at the van of the march, the masses in the North are opening with confidence the never-before trodden path of socialist and communist construction according to the program for imbuing the entire society with the chuche idea, enjoying an independent and creative life as the masters of the country and society.

Even under today's grim circumstances in which the vicious reactionary offensives of imperialism are being less disguised, the respected and beloved president, who has overcome all difficulties and hardships while always trusting the masses and relying on their strength, is more firmly consolidating the chuche fatherland into the invincible fortress of socialism by arousing the masses.

For this reason, all masses in the North and the South, be they men or women, are turning out as one in the campaign to create a new speed of the nineties, as demanded by the president, with great pride and endless confidence while upholding the respected and beloved president as the highest, following the Workers' Party of Korea as the best, and extolling the chuche socialist system as the best.

Because the great president is luminously emanating the resplendent rays of the chuche idea, countless masses, overflowing with hope and fighting spirit, are vigorously advancing along the path of independence and socialism.

The respected and beloved President Kim Il-song, whom our nation upholds and all people admire and follow, is, indeed, a great thinker, outstanding implemetor, and peerlessly great man who is giving play to the might of the masses and making the times shine with the ideas of a genius, extraordinary leadership abilities, and lofty virtue.

The fellow countrymen in the South, who have highly extolled the legend concerning the greatness of the general, the personification of the anti-Japanese struggle and national hero, who dealt a heavy blow to the brigandish Japanese imperialists from the time when the general star was shining in the sky above Mt. Paektu, have hewed out the path of struggle without a halt, invariably ardently revering the respected and beloved president as the lodestar of reunification.

With our masses embroidering the annals of about 80 years of the U.S. and Japanese imperialist colonial rule with resistance and struggle, the SKNDF, a patriotic vanguard unit, was launched even amid the unprecedented suppression of fascist dictatorship and has correctly led the reform movement for making the nation and the masses the proud masters of the country and their destinies. This is only because the great president resplendently illuminated our future path with the rays of chuche.

Because of its great truth and attraction, the immortal chuche idea has changed the structure of our U.S.-worshipping and flunkeyist consciousness into that of an anti-U.S. and independent consciousness and has enriched and developed many factional mass movements into an all-masses movement for independence, democracy, and reunification, rapidly spreading onto campuses, working sites, and other walks of life and onto Seoul and provinces.

Amid the flames of an uninterrupted and uncompromising struggle, our SKNDF has grown to be the genuine vanguard organization of the masses. Also, reliable young vanguard fighters, whose spirit is armed with the chuche idea, have been raised, thus matchlessly strengthening the force of the movement ranks.

The U.S. imperialists and the military fascist ring, which are hell bent on maintaining a stable colonial rule through the perpetuation of division on the Korean peninsula, have continued the murderous public security-dominated situation, have concocted the criminal merger of three parties, and have perpetrated the operations of annihilating the patriotic mass movement. However, no suppression with bayonets can ever block the struggle of our masses who want to live in independence, democracy, and reunification.

The SKNDF will constantly turn the adverse situation into a favorable one by initiatively countering the tenor of the rapidly changing situation, will dynamically accelerate the cause of enlightening the masses with consciousness and their organizational collusion, and will boldly realize the unity of the democratic and patriotic forces from all walks of life and their joint struggle of solidarity, thereby frustrating the anti-masses offensives of the U.S. imperialists and the military dictatorial ring and accelerating the all-masses resistance for independence, democracy, and reunification on a new higher level.

The cause of our masses, who want to life happily in a new reunified and independent world with the great president as the national leader, is victorious and invincible.

In the first April holiday of the hope-filled nineties, the SKNDF Central Committee, with the ardent wishes of the struggling vanguard fighters and the patriotic masses, respectfully wishes great President Kim Il-song, the peerless patriot and the sun of the nation, a long life and good health.

[Signed] SKNDF Central Committee
[Dated] 15 April 1990, Seoul

South Korea

No Wants Summit With Gorbachev in Washington

SK0205113590 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 2 May 90 p 2

[Report by Pang In-chol from Tokyo]

[Text] On 2 May, a U.S. source from Japan revealed that the Korean Government wants U.S. President Bush to play the role of mediator for the realization of summit talks between the heads of state of the Soviet Union and Korea, when both President Gorbachev and President No Tae-u are expected to visit Washington at the same time late this month.

From 24 May, President No will pay a courtesy visit to Japan and Canada and is expected to visit Mexico via the United States. This source also revealed that since the U.S.-Soviet summit talks are scheduled to be held on 30 May, at the same time that President No will be visiting the United States, the Korean Government is taking this as an opportunity to make plans for the realization of summit talks between President Gorbachev and President No.

This source disclosed that in order to realize this, the Korean Government dispatched Kim Sam-hun, director of the Americas bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to Washington early last month and is now in the process of making advance preparations to realize tripartite talks between the United States, the Soviet Union, and Korea.

Also, quoting U.S. Congressional sources and experts on Korea in Washington, this source forecasted that summit talks would not be possible because President No's visit to the United States is unofficial, because there are no diplomatic relations between Korea and the Soviet Union; and because the Soviet Union will probably reject this proposal. However, some observers pointed to fact that President Gorbachev held talks with Kim Yong-sam, corepresentative of the Democratic Liberal Party, who was on a visit to the Soviet Union, and that personal letters were exchanged between President Gorbachev and President No through Pak Chol-on, the first state minister of political affairs at that time, who visited the Soviet Union with Corepresentative Kim Yong-sam. Therefore, these observers feel that depending on how hard President Bush works, there is a good possibility for an unofficial contact between the leaders of the two countries.

This source believes that if tripartite talks between the United States, the Soviet Union, and Korea are realized, important items on the agenda will be the issue of establishing diplomatic relations between Korea and the Soviet Union, the issue of Korea's entry into the United Nations, and the issue of North-South Korean relations.

Vice Foreign Minister Speaks on Soviet Ties

SK0205012990 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 2 May 90 p 2

[Report by staff reporter Kim Chang-yong: "Seoul's Chances of UN Admission Very Bright"]

[Text] Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha has judged the prospects for Korea's admission to the United Nations "very bright at present," suggesting that the country may apply for membership as early as this year.

"We have yet to decide whether to apply for the membership this year as there are over five months to go before the opening of the UN General Assembly. It is not good to disclose our strategy beforehand. We may be determined to tender the application all of sudden," he told THE KOREA TIMES yesterday.

He returned to his office Monday after attending a special UN General Assembly session devoted to the discussion of economic issues held last week. During the session, he met with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Ernest Obminskiy to sound out Moscow's position on Seoul's initiatives to establish formal ties with the Soviet Union and join the world body.

He said that a group of key UN members meet once every two or three months to chart out schemes to "foster to maturity an atmosphere favorable to our admission" by persuading other members to act on Seoul's bid.

"The Soviet Union has shifted its stance from firm opposition to our bid to a position of flexibility. China will remain supportive of North Korea for the time being but it will be hard for Beijing to sustain the objection as most UN members speak our for our entry," he said.

"China experienced a veto by the United States when it sought to replace the Republic of China. It has to consider North Korea's request but it is not believed to be prepared to side with Pyongyang only in the long-term perspective," he added.

Yu seemed quite optimistic about Seoul's admission, noting that the General Assembly can recommend that the UN Security Council reconsider its decision even if Korea's application is rejected at the council by Moscow and China, the two Communist giants having long, but not changing alliances with Pyongyang.

North Korea has opposed admission by either side of the divided country before the South and the North are reunited in the unique theory that UN membership will surely impede reunification. Its theory is losing its rationale and support in the United Nations at a time when East and West Germany and North and South Yemen, all UN members, are on the threshold of reunification, he pointed out.

"Whether we have UN membership or not is totally unrelated to our pursuit of reunification. North Korea should learn from those cases. The divided nations have used the world body as a venue for dialogue and reconciliation," he elaborated.

He asserted that 20 countries or so support Pyongyang's line, while five to six times more nations support Seoul's membership. "Most East European countries support our position. Nonaligned Movement leaders like Yugoslavia are moving toward ties with us. And an overwhelming majority of UN members have turned their backs on the absurd North Korean formula."

UN Secretary General Javier Peres de Cuellar expressed his hope that Seoul will be able to join the international organization in accordance with the principle of universality, using Yemen as an example, when he met Yu recently.

"The Soviet Union and China will feel a burden in exercising their veto in the face of an overwhelming majority supporting our admission."

Vice Minister Yu had an in depth discussion with Obminskiy on ways to improve bilateral relations during the meeting at the United Nations, which is a space open to all.

In the talk, the highest-level one between the two countries, which lasted for over an hour, they shared an identical view that existing relations in joint ventures, trade, investment, personal exchanges, and other sectors would eventually develop into diplomatic links.

The vice ministerial-level talks set the tone for holding talks at the foreign minister level between Korea and the Soviet Union, as proposed by Seoul's Choe Ho-chung in early February.

Radio Moscow Cited on Korean Deaths Under Stalin

SK0105113390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0905 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 1 (YONHAP)—About 2,000 ethnic Koreans died in the Soviet Union as a result of Josef Stalin's harsh rule in the 1930s and early 1940s, Radio Moscow was quoted as reporting Sunday.

"The later 1930s and early 1940s were a tragic era for Koreans living in the Soviet Union. The Koreans lost about 2,000 of their outstanding sons—workers, soldiers, teachers and writers—during Stalin's oppressive rule," South Korea's NAEWOE PRESS said Tuesday, quoting the radio.

It was also reported as saying that the forced relocation of Koreans into Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan (from the Far Eastern regions) left "traces of bitter sufferings."

The relocation cost the lives of several hundred aged and young Koreans, according to the report quoted by the communist affairs watcher.

Daily Comments on Sino-Soviet Ministers' Talks

SK0205022690 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 28 Apr 90 p 2

[Editorial: "China's Responsibility for Korean Peninsula—Cold War Designs Should Not Be Continued Any Longer"]

[Text] Participants in the Sino-Soviet foreign ministers' meeting held during Chinese Premier Li Peng's visit to the Soviet Union concurred in their views on the issues concerning the Korean peninsula.

Outwardly at least, their shared views are identical to ones stated in a joint communique released at the end of a previous meeting between U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers who assumed that issues concerning the Korean peninsula are matters of mutual concern. Thus, these two meetings have proved that the issue of relaxing tension on the Korean peninsula has been added to the list of major items to be discussed among the United States, the Soviet Union, and China. In this way, we are witnessing the unfolding of a new phase in which the Korean peninsula question is taking shape steadily and positively as an immediate matter of concern among the major powers concerned with the Korean peninsula. This is a course of events that merits keen attention from both the North and South.

The Chinese and Soviet foreign ministers announced that "they had concurred in views that North-South dialogue is indispensable to the relaxation of tensions on the Korean peninsula and that it is impossible to realize genuine security and stability in Northeast Asia without settlement of the Korean peninsula question." It was a formula in which "the easing of tension on the Korean peninsula is tied to North-South dialogue and this, in turn, is tied to stability in the Northeast Asia."

We consider the awareness of the Korean peninsula question on the part of the Chinese and Soviet foreign ministers, along with the shared views of the U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers on the Korean peninsula, to be a sign that these major powers are beginning to see the situation on the Korean peninsula from a different perspective.

What we are concerned about in such a development, however, is what kind of plans the United States, the Soviet Union, and China—countries which are calling for talks between the North and the South and are determined to promote talks between them—will work out and what kinds of means they will employ to implement such plans. In particular, China has decided to defend its so-called Chinese model of socialism going against the call for reform and opening in the wake of the riot in the Tiananmen Square. The stand that such a China has taken on the Korean peninsula is different from those taken by the United States and the Soviet Union. This can be called a difference between the cold war designs and designs trimmed of the cold war.

Easing tension on the Korean peninsula is aimed at preserving peace in the North and the South and eventually in Northeast Asia, and the preservation of peace on the Korean peninsula will be possible only when the North and South pursue common prosperity through peaceful coexistence between the North and the South. As in the case of the United States and the Soviet Union, China should also realize that North-South talks which it claims to be the key to the settlement of the Korean peninsula question is, in practice, part of the process of achieving this goal, namely, preservation of peace on the Korean peninsula and Northeast Asia. If the major powers concerned about the Korean peninsula question are willing to take it upon themselves to settle the Korean peninsula question, they should exercise influence on anybody who refuses to seek to achieve this goal.

Although it hopes to promote Korean-Chinese relations, China persists in developing bilateral relations with Korea at the civilian level while opposing government-to-government contacts. The Chinese attitude as such is the same as denying the existence of two governments actually existing on the Korean peninsula and is nothing more than an act of sympathizing with North Korea's unrealistic standpoint without making any effort to criticize it.

It is quite natural that China expressed its concern about the Korean peninsula question in the Sino-Soviet foreign ministers' talks. It is easy to assume that China, the center of power in Northeast Asia, could not help being sensitive about the fact that Korea and the Soviet Union are moving rapidly toward the establishment of diplomatic relations and that the Soviet Union has been increasing pressure on North Korea to goad it into opening itself up. Above all, China must understand that the key to advancing the North-South talks lies in making North Korea give up its machination policy toward the South and genuinely realize the need to espouse peaceful coexistence between the North and the South. Unless North Korea acquires discretion that enables it to discern the changes in the situation, that is to say, unless North Korea nurtures a new political thinking, breaking away from the Cold War designs, the North-South talks will only be put to bad use as an instrument in machinations to keep regimes in power and assert superiority of the system.

With the Asian Games approaching, Korea and China have many areas in which they need to broaden the scope of cooperation. Nevertheless, as long as China persists in its current policy toward the Korean peninsula, a policy of unilaterally supporting North Korea's unrealistic cold war theories, we have no choice but to believe that China is the captive of the cold war way of thinking and reconsider the issue of expanding exchanges with China. We urge China to formulate a new policy toward the Korean peninsula to preserve peace there. That is what China is supposed to do given its responsibility for the Korean peninsula. We even urge our government to keep this in mind and be dauntless in its policy toward China.

Results of North Korean SPA Elections Analyzed

SK2904131790 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 24 Apr 90 p 3

[Article by reporter An Hui-chang: "Prospects After the Just Concluded Elections of Deputies"]

[Text] The elections of deputies to the 9th Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of North Korea, which were held six months before the time stipulated by the constitution—and were accompanied by fierce winds of reform blowing from the Soviet Union and other East European countries—concluded on 22 April.

Prior to the elections, there had been a lot of speculation about Kim Il-song's transfer of power and North Korea's partial opening. Kim's transfer of power was rumored in late February when North Korea announced its plan to hold the elections ahead of schedule.

In particular, Japan's KYODO NEWS AGENCY reported on 9 March that "Kim Il-song informed the Chinese side that he would resign from the presidency shortly after his birthday on 15 April." After that, the rumor on Kim's transfer of power began to spread.

In late March, however, Sihanouk, leader of the Cambodian dissident forces, who visited North Korea, said that "as long as Kim Il-song is alive, there will be no official transfer of power." After that, the speculation faded away.

After all, the rumor of Kim's transfer of power turned out to be groundless when Kim clarified on 19 April that "I will faithfully serve the fatherland and the people and devote myself to the cause of socialism and communism."

On the other hand, some judged that North Korea, which was aware of the free elections being held in East Europe, held the SPA elections as a gesture of "seemingly responding to" the tone in the East European countries. In other words, they predicted that North Korea would assume the attitude of coping with the tendency toward reforms in East Europe by revising the "100-percent-participation-and-100-percent-approval pattern," whose application was excluded only in the elections of deputies to the First and Second SPA, and by allotting "some seats" to political parties other than the Workers' Party.

From this perspective, North Korea showed something meaningful through the elections.

It is difficult to correctly analyze the election results because there is no way to confirm how many members from other parties were elected out of the 687 deputies. However, Yi Kye-paek, chairman of the Korean Social Democratic Party, was included on the list of high-level deputy candidates. This suggests a great deal in connection with the "role" of non-Workers' Party members.

The degree of participation in the voting decreased from the past's 100 percent to 99.78 percent. This could be a "meaningful" percentage for North Korea. As a matter of fact, the elections in North Korea are aimed not at electing deputies, but at promoting unity through mass mobilization. This is confirmed by the fact that various rallies to praise Kim Il-song and to call for the defense of socialism had been held before the elections.

North Korea seems to have worked out a strategy to prevent the tenor of reform in East Europe from influencing North Korea.

Also, it appears that through the elections, North Korea has laid a foundation for transferring power to Kim Chong-il.

In the elections, North Korea replaced about 30 percent of the deputies with newer generations, including three revolutions team members. And Chon Pyong-ho, Kang Song-san, and So Yun-sok, right-hand men of Kim Chong-il, have come to the fore. This is interpreted as efforts to consolidate a foundation for the transfer of power to Kim Chong-il.

What draws attention in this connection is what position Kim Chong-il will take in the state apparatus. Some believe that Kim Chong-il, who has had no government position, is likely to assume a vice presidency.

According to their analysis, North Korea may lay the foundation for Kim Chong-il to be inaugurated as vice president and to gain control over the Central People's Committee, the supreme state organ, in case of any incident involving Kim Il-song, though it is true that he is the actual ruler in all fields.

Along with this, a report on the draft budget for 1990 will be made and the endorsement of the budget will follow at the first session slated for May. Attention is being paid to North Korea because it is expected that some policy of economic reform will be made public at the session.

Product Standards To Be Discussed With North

SK2804021090 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 28 Apr 90 p 6

[Text] South Korea plans to discuss industrial standards with north Korea in Paris next month.

South Korean officials will propose talks on industrial standards when they meet their north Korean counterparts at an international conference on the romanization of the Korean alphabet, Hangul, in Paris May 14, the Industrial Advancement Administration [IAA] said yesterday.

North Korea told the Geneva-based International Standard Organization [ISO] that it would participate in the conference in Paris, the IAA said.

Efforts will have to be made to reconcile different standards, which would hamper inter-Korea trade should it expand from primary products to industrial products, it said.

For example, a north Korean typewriter could not be used in the south if its keyboard were different from that in use in the south, an IAA official said.

Because of this reason, he said, the ISO sponsors the international conference on Hangul romanization for the computer.

The official said he does not expect an accord on Hangul romanization will be made at the conference "because more than a comparative advantage is involved."

In 1987 and 1988, south and north Korea attempted in vain to adopt a unified system of romanizing Hangul.

"I would not say our system is perfect," he said. "But experiments show ours is better than that of the north."

Call for May Day Strike 'Largely Ignored'

SK0205030690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0248 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 2 (YONHAP)—A call by the National Alliance on Trade Unions (NATU) for a nationwide May Day strike was largely ignored, with walkouts reported at only 32 companies, the Labor Ministry said Wednesday. The ministry said that as of 5 P.M. 60,000 workers at 14 of the Hyundai group's subsidiaries in Ulsan and 8,200 at 18 companies in other parts of South Korea had heeded NATU's call.

Tuesday marked the first authorized May Day celebrations in Korea, ever. The ban on events to mark May Day was lifted last month by the government.

NATU, established earlier this year and unrecognized by the government, says it has a membership of more than 400 unions.

In the industrial centers of Masan and Changwon, southern Kyongsang Province, most laborers worked in the morning and took part in rallies criticizing the police action against a strike at the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. after lunch.

More than 10,000 riot police stormed the nation's largest shipyard early Saturday morning and dispersed some 1,500 striking workers.

Workers at Cosmos Electronics in Inchon, Chonji Industrial Co. in Kuro Industrial Estate in Western Seoul and Koryo Co. in Pusan denounced the police action and downed tools in the morning. At Korea Samhyup Machinery Co. in Anyang, near Seoul, 250 employees started a work slowdown.

Ministry officials said most union members were expected to return to work Thursday after a day off Wednesday for Buddha's birthday, a national holiday. But those at Hyundai subsidiaries were feared to remain on strike. The officials did not rule out the possibility of strikes lasting beyond the holiday.

Seoul subway workers are pushing for a strike, the union at Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. has already called a work stoppage and unions at some 60 firms in Seoul have resolved to walk off the job for a few days, they noted.

The ministry will try harder to persuade union leaders at Hyundai subsidiaries to stop their strikes and will take punitive actions against unions that join in the walkout, they said.

Eight NATU leaders are wanted by police on charges of instigating strikes, they said.

CBS Union Workers Stage Sympathy Walkout

SK0205110590 Seoul YONHAP in English 1043 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 2 (YONHAP)—Union members at South Korea's Christian Broadcasting System (CBS) went on a boycott of program production Wednesday in sympathy with striking colleagues at the state-run Korea Broadcasting System (KBS).

The walkout, which will be contiued until 2 a.m. next Monday, was decided at an emergency meeting of unionist staffers at the radio station located in Seoul.

The CBS labor union had resolved on Tuesday to replace normal programming with music from 9 a.m. Wednesday to 2 a.m. Friday to protest the government's use of police force to end the KBS strike Sunday night but the union has changed the orginal action into a tougher one because senior staffers foiled the initial plan by force.

Earlier Wednesday, more than 30 CBS senior staffers blocked the unionists from entering the studio to air music instead of normal programming on the grounds that the union's decision is in violation of the management-labor agreement on programming.

Unionists at the Munhwa Broadcasting Corp., the country's second largest television and radio network, have been already in a walkout to protest the police raid into KBS and to support their KBS colleagues demanding the resignation of their newly-appointed president.

Meanwhile, a KBS unionist, who fainted and was hospitalized on April 24 during the strike, died Wednesday afternoon at a Seoul Hospital.

Kim Chae-sok, 52, had been in a coma for a week after he broke down apparently from exhaustion. Kim was participating in the strike as a member of the traditional peasants band to cheer up striking colleagues.

Ministers Meet To Avert Stock Market Collapse

SK0105062090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0508 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 1 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean economic ministers, huddling in an emergency session on the feared collapse of the stock market, decided Monday night that the government will place strict controls on corporate land ownership and ask securities, insurance and short-term finance companies to dispose of their real estate holdings. The ministers, hastily rounded up by Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun, agreed that to give authority to the recommendations the government would impose financial and tax penalties on disobedient companies.

Funds from the sale of real estate will be used to purchase shares to resuscitate the stock market, it was decided during the two and a half hours of debate. The meeting followed President No Tae-u's directive in the afternoon that powerful measures be taken to curb inflation and real estate speculation.

The 12 economic ministers and Kim Chong-in, presidential secretary for economic affairs, attended the meeting. They concluded that all Korea's economic hardships stem from real estate speculation and that the answer is to clarify the standard for classification of corporate land holdings as either business or non-business purpose.

In March, the combined value of real estate owned by Korea's 30 largest conglomerates reached 13.1 trillion won (18.71 billion U.S. dollars), up 3.77 trillion won (5.38 billion dollars) in book value from a year earlier, showing the concentration of land ownership in a few hands, according to the Office of Bank Supervision and Examination (OBSE).

It was agreed to faithfully carry out the comprehensive economy boosting measures announced last month so as to improve the stock market environment and to strictly enforce laws against violent labor disputes. A ranking official at the Economic Planning Board said the meeting was held to find ways to carry out No's instructions. He said the economic ministers had recognized the need to support the stock market and stabilize investor sentiment, a hint that market-boosting measures may be in the works.

No's instructions, issued amid mounting skepticism about his government's capability to manage economic crises, included an order to establish a "special team" for managing real estate speculation in the office of the senior presidential secretary for economic affairs to supervise government work related with the measures.

Finance Minister Chong Yong-ui was told to cut short his trip to New Delhi and immediately return to Seoul to help set up the anti-inflation measures. Chong left Saturday for New Delhi to attend the 23rd annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank on May 1-5.

* Local Autonomy Preparations, Issues

* Total Districts, Seats

902C0163A Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 21 Feb 90 p 1

[Text] The Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] held a Local Autonomy Election Law Subcommittee meeting (chaired by Assemblyman Kim Chong-ho) on 20 February to adopt a decision fixing the number of local assembly electoral districts and local assembly seats.

In the case of extra large local autonomous entities, each city, county, or district [ku] with a population of 300,000 or less will elect three seats, and each city, county, or district whose population exceeds 300,000 will elect one additional seat for each 200,000 in excess of 300,000.

When one administrative district (city, county, or ku) has two or more National Assembly electoral districts, it will elect three local assemblymen from each National Assembly electoral district, whereas a county with a population of less than 70,000 will elect two local assemblymen.

The subcommittee also fixed the lower limit to the number of local assembly seats at 20 for relatively small special cities under direct control of the central government, such as Kwangju and Taejon, and at 17 for Cheju Island.

According to the subcommittee's calculations, when this plan is adopted, the total number of local assembly electoral districts will be 297 and that of local assembly seats will be 848.

Under this plan, the fixed number of local assembly seats for each extra large autonomous entity will be two to five.

In the case of basic autonomous entities (city, county, and ku), two separate standards are set, one for cities and counties, the other for ku's.

For the municipal or county assembly, each township, village, or subdistrict with a population of 20,000 or less will elect one local assemblyman, and each with a population of more than 20,000 will elect one additional assemblyman for each additional 20,000. The fixed number of seats in the municipal, county, or ku assembly will be between 10 and 25.

In special cases where the population of a city or county exceeds 500,000, (as in Songnam, Puchon, Chonju, Ulsan, and Masan), the fixed number of local assembly seats is increased up to 30.

For the ku assembly, the number of seats will be: 12 when the population is 100,000 or less; one additional seat for each 25,000 in excess of 100,000 when the population is between 100,000 and 300,000; one additional seat for each 40,000 in excess of 100,000 when the population is between 300,000 and 500,000; whereas for a district with a population of more than 500,000, the total number of seats will be limited to 30.

According to calculations by the subcommittee, for all city, county, and ku assemblies, the total number of electoral districts will be 2,699, and the total fixed number of seats will be 3,919.

In the case of ku's, two or three subdistricts will be joined into one electoral district from which two to four assemblymen will be elected.

The subcommittee said that in the case of extra large autonomous entities, there will be 65 two-seat electoral districts, 213 three-seat districts, 16 four-seat districts, and three five-seat districts (Kwangju Northern, Taejon Central, and Cheju City); whereas in the case of city and county assemblies (basic autonomous entities), there will be 1,895 one-seat districts, 401 two-seat districts, and 390 three-seat districts, and 13 four-seat districts.

The following is the fixed number of assembly seats for extra large autonomous entities by cities and provinces: Seoul, 127; Pusan, 50; Taegu, 28; Inchon, 24; Kwangju, 20; Taejon, 20; Kyonggi Province, 113; Kangwon Province, 53; North Chungchong Province, 38; South Chungchong Province, 55; North Cholla Province, 53; South Cholla Province, 74; North Kyongsang Province, 88; South Kyongsang Province, 88; and Cheju Province, 17.

* Hopefuls Await Nomination

902C0163B Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 21 Feb 90 p 17

[By reporter Che Chong-kap]

[Text] Preparations for the introduction of the autonomy system in Seoul City with a population of more than 10 million are still in a quiet stage, but hopefuls for municipal assembly seats are poised for a full-fledged election campaign, engaging in activities to introduce themselves to local citizens.

The following is an overall examination of hopefuls for the municipal assembly seats in Seoul, which has consolidated the foundation of its autonomous capability as the capital city, as well as preparations under way for the introduction of the autonomy system, and some problems involving this system.

Hopefuls

When the ruling and opposition parties adopted the revised Local Autonomy Law last December, they struck out the provisions on the number of local assembly seats and the timing for establishing local assemblies, with an agreement to fix them at the current extraordinary session of the National Assembly. However, the Seoul municipal government estimates that the number of its municipal assembly seats will total approximately 100.

Unlike the countryside, where hopefuls are coming to the fore with various backgrounds, such as regional connections, blood relationships, popularity, and financial strength, there is no surface activity yet by any hopefuls in Seoul.

This may be partly because the provisions on the electoral district and the number of assembly seats have yet to be fixed. But, in the final analysis, the main reason seems to be that because the conditions in Seoul are so peculiar that party nomination would give candidates a better chance of winning, hopefuls are afraid that they would lose more than they would gain if they should come out in the open before winning a party nomination.

In the midst of the three-party merger, the power distribution among the Democratic Justice Party [DJP], the Reunification Democratic Party [RDP], and the New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP] remains unclear; accordingly, the groping in the dark will continue until mid-March, by which time the picture of the local district party committees of the new Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] will emerge.

Those whose names are mentioned as would-be candidates for the Seoul municipal assembly can roughly be divided into the following categories: former government officials, local district officials of various parties, businessmen and financiers, and activist figures. However, they are so named merely by guesswork by people around them.

In the case of Chung-ku [the central district], Yim Chon-tae (47, former DJP district vice chairman), Sin Tok-kyun (60, president of Kumchon Chemical Co), Kim Chang-hwan (60, chairman of the Myongdong Market Prosperity Association), Kim Hwa-chin (50, former NDRP district party committee secretary general), are expected to run, but there is no visible move on their part.

In Mapo-ku, the following persons are mentioned as would-be candidates, but there is no visible activity: Choe Yong-sok (44, president of Mapo Newspaper), Pak Chong-mun (50, building contractor,PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy] vice chairman), So Chung-chon (42, PPD A-District Organizational Department chief), and U Sye-kyun (48, representative of Songjin Trading Co, former NDRP Central Standing Committee member).

In Sodaemun-ku, the following persons are regarded as potential candidates: Yi Tae-kil (36, research chief of the PPD Policy Research Office), Sin Kyong-sik (47, board member of the Minju University, former RDP B-District party committee vice chairman), and Yi Tae-yong (50, board member of Korea Field, former RDP A-District party committee vice chairman). Yu Hyo-il (49, representative of Keba Construction Co, PPD vice chairman) has organized the Society of Friends from Honam and is quite active.

In Songbuk-ku, the four PPD district party committee chairmen, including Hwang Chong-sik (55) and Son Man-ok (47), were quick to declare their candidacy and have been busy laying the groundwork for electioneering, sending out New Year's greeting cards and making the rounds of individual homes. Rumors say that Ku Chaeman (53), former DJP district party committee vice chairman, will run for election, but Ku himself remains quiet.

In Kangnam-ku, a Kim (70), member of the Advisory Council for Peaceful Reunification and a former member of the presidential electoral college; a Chong (56), and a Choe (53) are potential candidates. The names of an O (48, PPD official) and a Cho (51, former NDRP official) are also mentioned as would-be candidates.

In other districts, the situation is similar. There are no visible moves, and there is no election fever either.

Under these circumstances, the Local Autonomy Research Institute of Hanyang University held a seminar for hopefuls from the Seoul-Kyonggi area at the Academy House in Suyuri last November. More than 40 executive officers of district party committee chairmen of various parties were present. Similar events in preparation for the election have occasionally taken place.

In view of the size and importance of the Seoul municipal assembly, once the electoral race gets started, the fever is expected to rise higher than anywhere else, and the current atmosphere of groping in the dark may be aptly likened to the calm before a storm.

Preparations

Due to the unclear prospect for the introduction of local autonomy in the past, the Seoul municipal government has taken no specific measures, although it has completed the overall preparatory work. As early as last May, the Seoul municipal government established a new system of officials in charge of local autonomy affairs, consisting of 14 members with a grade-4 section chief as its head. The system has been in operation since then. This January it organized local autonomy promotion teams in each of the 22 district offices under its jurisdiction, with a sub-section chief as its head.

In anticipation of diverse administrative requirements incident to the introduction of local autonomy, the municipal government completed a revamping of its table of organization last November by creating an additional 631 positions, including two grade-1 officials, one grade-2 official, one grade-3 official, 13 grade-4 officials, 52 grade-5 officials, and 562 grade-6 officials. In particular, each district office has newly established the office of culture and information and the office of inspection to strengthen information and inspection work.

With the municipal and district (ku) assembly elections slated for some time in the first half of the year, the city government is busy securing city and district assembly buildings.

The annex to the Sejong Hall of Culture has been chosen as the municipal assembly building, but it has encountered opposition on the part of performing artists, who term the choice as an "anti-cultural action."

However, the Seoul municipal government plans to use this hall as the municipal assembly building on the grounds, first, that the building was originally erected as Seoul Citizens' Hall in 1935 and had housed the National Assembly from June 1954 through September 1975, when the National Assembly moved to its present location in Youido; second, that it is close to the city government and no other suitable building can be found.

As to district assembly buildings, Songdong, Tongdaemun, Songbuk, Kangso, Kuro, and Socho districts will use their district citizens' halls, and Tobong-ku will use the New Village Hall, as their district assembly buildings, and all other districts plan to build new buildings or rent existing buildings for use as assembly buildings.

But, as for the organization of secretariats to handle the administrative aspect of the municipal and district assemblies, negotiations are currently under way between the Seoul municipal government and the Ministry of Home Affairs, with the number of personnel and their grades to be determined in the future.

Believing that the retraining of government employees is indispensable for the introduction of local autonomy, the Seoul municipal government plans to send 70 employees from each district office to the Civil Service Training Center for 1-week training, beginning late this month through the end of June.

In preparation for the introduction of local autonomy, the Seoul municipal government has already secured a total of 21,919 million won in its budget—7,647 million won in election and operational funds for the municipal assembly and 14,272 million won in election and building funds for district assemblies.

Problems Involved

Problems facing the Seoul municipal government in connection with the impending full scale introduction of local autonomy around the corner include the anticipated change in "status of Seoul City" caused by local autonomy and the marked disparity among its 22 districts in their fiscal resources.

When the Seoul municipal assembly is established under the Local Autonomy Law, the status of Seoul City will be reduced to that of an autonomous entity on a par with any other city and province because it will be placed under the guidance and control of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

When the autonomy system is introduced, the "Extraordinary Measures Law on the Administration of Seoul Special City," enacted in 1962, will automatically lose effect, and Seoul City will cease to be subject to administrative adjustments by the Office of the Prime Minister and will instead come under the control of the minister of home affairs; and the mayor will be barred from State Council meetings—his presence in such meetings has hitherto been symbolic of his prestige.

With a view toward maintaining its current status equivalent to that of a central government agency by claiming the peculiarities of the administration of the capital city, the Seoul municipal government has drafted a bill of amendment to the Local Autonomy Law in order to require prior approval by the prime minister rather than by the minister of home affairs for the central government's inspection of the Seoul City administration and grant the adjustment authority for the consultative council on municipal and provincial administration to the prime minister rather than the minister of home affairs.

In particular, under the current revised Local Autonomy Law, the appointment of deputy mayor goes through the process of nomination by the home minister, but according to the draft bill, the prime minister will make such nomination as is the current practice.

The Seoul municipal government plans to introduce this bill of amendment in the current or next extraordinary session of the National Assembly. But the Ministry of Home Affairs is against the bill, and it is questionable whether the bill will be passed as it is. So, this question is expected to become a troublesome issue in connection with the introduction of the local autonomy system.

Another issue is that the disparity among the autonomous districts under the Seoul municipal government in their financial self-supporting capabilities is so marked that it is feared that this financial disparity may lead to a disparity in the ability of self-rule.

On average, the 22 districts are 56.3 percent self-supporting in financial terms. But, in the case of Kangnam-ku and Chung-ku, they can meet their fiscal expenditures 100 percent from their district taxes, such as the building and land taxes, the business office tax, license fees. But six districts—Chungnang, Songbuk, Tobong, Unpyong, Sodaemun, and Kwanak—can meet only 30 percent of the expenditures with their own financial resources.

These "poor districts" are demanding an expansion of commercial centers, an early completion of highway construction and regional development projects, and the development of profitable business projects for each district. However, there are no clear prospects for meeting these demands.

The problem of autonomous districts' fiscal self-supporting capability is expected to become more acute when a local assembly is established in each district and begins to deliberate on the district government's budget, and it becomes more difficult to adjust the municipal and district taxes.

* Kim Yong-sam's Role in DLP Discussed

902C0166A Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 24 Feb 90 p 3

[Article by reporter Yi Yong-sik: "Interest in Supreme Council Member Kim Yong-sam's Status Within the Ruling Camp"]

[Text] With the 22 January announcement on the formation of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], Kim Yong-sam, a DLP supreme council member, has completely reversed his political course, and public interest is now focused on his status within the new ruling camp.

At this time, when the preparatory work to inaugurate the new party has not even been completed, it is very difficult to pinpoint his place in the new hierarchy. Nevertheless, all recent political developments considered, it is possible to make a cautious analysis and prognostication. A concrete evaluation of Kim Yong-sam's complete transformation will, in the short term, take the form of public judgment through various elections, but it is bound to take a long time before he is put to the test of history. He himself says "it would take 10 to 20 years to make a proper judgment of me"; so, he is poised to subject himself to various criticisms.

Kim Yong-sam's status in the new party may be an important factor in making a long-term evaluation of him. In other words, depending on what role he plays in the new ruling camp which has been formed through the merger, and to what extent, it will become possible to tell whether he has been absorbed into the No Tae-u administration, or as he claims, he has forced the ruling forces to bring down their signboard.

Supreme Council member Kim Yong-sam's status within the new ruling camp may be roughly divided into two aspects, the formal aspect and the more important substantive aspect. Needless to say, the two aspects are related to each other like the two sides of a coin.

Viewed on the formal side, he is one of the three supreme council members, and practically, he is the representative council member. Some slight change is anticipated in the party hierarchy at the April party convention, but as far as the DLP's party affairs are concerned, he is expected to be given the overall control of party affairs.

He is already being treated as such at various DLP gatherings. But inasmuch as President No appointed Pak Tae-chun as acting supreme council member and thus secured himself a political status one level higher, supreme council member Kim has become the number-two man as a matter of form.

By attending Blue House meetings five times during the period from 22 January through 23 February, he widened the window of opportunity to meet the president who holds full powers over state affairs under the constitution. Their secretarial staffs are also having relatively frequent contacts. Given the present power structure and the mentality of the ruling camp, meeting with the president assumes great significance, particularly so in the case of exclusive meetings with him. This is because state affairs are conducted through the president. Supreme council member Kim has no choice but to put forth his position through the president and that is his limitation.

Kim Yong-sam has reportedly not yet had an opportunity to hold an exclusive meeting with the president. In this connection, his close aides say, "it is possible any time, but if the position of the president appears to be weaker, the lame duck phenomenon would accelerate; therefore, he is eschewing it." However, the president reportedly prefers three-way meetings including another supreme council member, Kim Chong-pil. So, there is a considerable gap between the claims of the two sides.

The new power equation between the administration and the party is also important. This is because even if supreme council member Kim Yong-sam "takes control" of the DLP, it may be possible that the status of the party itself will automatically be downgraded and its influence will wane. Already in some quarters in the administration, there is appearing the tendency to abandon political neutrality—which somewhat improved in the days when the ruling party was in the minority in the National Assembly—and revert to the old practices under the Fifth Republic. This is because in the judgment of the administration, the joining of the opposition forces in the existing ruling party does not work as a strong check on the ruling party but merely complements it at best. This judgment is expected to increase the possibility of the administrative branch going it alone and thus reducing the influence of the party.

The influence of the party may be enhanced somewhat through closer party-government exchanges, for instance, by having many DLP assemblymen appointed to cabinet posts. But the present atmosphere in the Blue House favors separating politics from government; accordingly, it will be difficult to establish the party's dominance over the administration.

Moreover, it is questionable whether supreme council member Kim Yong-sam will be able to take control of the party. The DJP faction, whose numerical strength is more than twice that of the RDP faction, is poised to unite around acting supreme council member Pak Tae-chun. Kim Yong-sam will consolidate his position as the number-two man in the party, but he has not yet established an internal structure through which he will exercise his influence corresponding to this position.

On the side of substance also, supreme council member Kim Yong-sam's status is uncertain.

First, he strongly hopes to participate in the conduct of state affairs, but he is practically unable to have the "Kim Yong-sam line" reflected in the administration. He has failed to push through his demand for the revision or abolition of evil laws, such as the National Security Law and the Law on the Agency for National Security Planning, and for the release of Reverend Mun Ik-hwan, Father Mun Kyu-hyon, and Yim Su-kyong.

He tends to retreat from the position he took during the days of the four-party system on various economic reform measures and on the local autonomy issue. In this connection, his close aides say that "for the time being, he has to find his rationale in economic issues rather than in political reforms." But he is quite at a loss because of the demand that for a short-term economic invigoration, the administration "retreat" to the policy of giving priority to growth. In view of this internal situation, supreme council Member Kim plans to establish his own turf by achieving epoch-making results during his visit to the Soviet Union slated for next month. He has failed to secure the share of cabinet posts he hoped for members of his faction. He expressed his wishes on this matter on several occasions, but the Blue House practically rejected his wishes on the ground that the matter belongs to "the inherent authority of the president."

It seems that there is no sure guarantee for post-No Tae-u power. President No's key staff member said, "it depends on the magnitude of the ability supreme council member Kim demonstrates in the future, and we cannot recognize any vested interest whatsoever."

All this considered, it seems that supreme council member Kim has not yet secured a structure and a practical share of power within the new ruling party which are necessary to push through his political line.

One of his close aides said: "Because this is a period of transition, he is refraining from making active assertions or demands, but from the April party convention on, he will go forward with enlivening, both in name and reality, the spirit of the merger achieved on the equal footing." According to the same aide, Kim Yong-sam is studying ways to clearly divide the area of responsibility between President No and himself, making the former responsible for the administration and the latter for the party, and conduct state affairs by the two practically on an equal footing as the persons responsible for the administration and the party.

But this formula is facing strong opposition from the old ruling forces. Kim Yong-sam's status will take shape in a little more concrete form through a readjustment of roles at the April party convention and through a cabinet reshuffling which is expected to be carried out at about that time.

Kim Yong-sam Resigns as Chapter Chairman

SK0105021590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0058 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 1 (YONHAP)—Kim Yong-sam, co-leader of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), resigned as chairman of the party's Pusan-West chapter on Monday. In a statement issued by DLP spokesman Pak Hui-tae, Kim said he was giving up the position to bring reconciliation and unity to the party.

The DLP's three major factions, one of which is headed by Kim himself, have been engaged in a struggle for power since the party's creation in January by a merger of the then-ruling Democratic Justice Party and two opposition parties.

"My resignation as Pusan-West chapter chairman is a small tribute to rehabilitation of the party and to the people. My party should now be free from factional strife. I think my resignation will end the times of factions," he said. Kim said he wanted Kwak Chong-chul, a former Democratic Justice Party chapter chairman, to fill the position.

* Political Factionalism in DLP Discussed

* Prospects of Factionalism

902C0150 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 8 Feb 90 p 3

[Article by reporter Yi In-chun]

[Text] The launching of the newly merged party, tentatively named Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], signals the arrival of the age of clan politics.

Rather than being formed by a new political force, the DLP has been created through the merger of existing parties—DJP [Democratic Justice Party], RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] and NDRP [New Democratic Republican Party]. Therefore, it essentially possesses the characteristics of clan politics from the beginning. Moreover, the leaders of the three parties and their followers who joined the newly merged party have all voiced considerable expectations regarding the clan politics of the huge government party.

In fact, our country has had a fairly long history of clan politics.

When the Liberal Party was in power, the new and old factions of the Democratic Party, which was the only opposition party at the time, struggled for party hegemony and for the nomination of the presidential candidate. Frictions and conflicts developed between these new and old factions when the Second Republic was founded after the 19 April Incident. All this created a negative impression of clan politics.

It is not that clans did not exist in the regime of Republican Party. But because the clan of the Republican Party was created for the convenience of the autocratic President Pak Chong-hui and then was nullified after the Yusin [Revitalizing Reform] era, it never helped activate politics through clan rivalry. At that time, the lively site of clan politics was the New Democratic Party (NDP). In particular, the NDP clan in the Yusin era consisted of six to seven factions, the largest in number.

However, except for a specially designated clan, the NDP's clan at the time lost much of its substance because of political maneuvering, resulting only in the formation of a sort of faction rather than a true clan.

Thus, our experience has given us the impression that clan politics is a power struggle for party hegemony within the opposition circle. Now that the ruling government party DLP has prepared itself to launch clan politics, it has become a matter of utmost concern because it opens a new chapter in our political history.

In particular, the clan politics that the DLP will launch assumes constitutional revision for a parliamentary government. Thus, we cannot eliminate the possibility of power transfer among the members of the clan, like the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan.

Particularly, the opponents of the merger point out that the merger of the three parties is ultimately aimed at succession of political power among the members of the clan. This shows that the launching of the DLP assumes the birth of new clan politics.

We cannot hastily conclude how the DLP's clan politics will develop in the future, but it seems to be heading for a lot of trouble and complications.

Obviously, the DLP clan will be divided among the three factions of the DJP, the RDP and the NDRP, as meant by the merger of the three parties. To begin with, however, it is pointed out that although the three parties, which will form the mainstream of the clan, are conservatives, their background and sphere of activities are entirely different. Thus, it would be difficult to expect a harmony of "competition and cooperation," which is an essential ingredient of clan politics.

This is because it is not easy for them to forget their long-standing rivalry overnight and suddenly have a sense of comradeship while feeling the rivalry.

Additionally, there is the problem of resolving the differences among the lower-level workers, which are unlike the intent and goals of the leaders who made the decision to merge the three parties. Solving this problem could be as difficult as the merger itself. There is a great deal of friction among the district party chapters of the three parties, which are the subordinate organizations. This, too, is caused by the physiological differences.

Alongside, the background and purpose of the merger have become problematic elements of clan politics. The key leaders of the three parties are trying to elevate the launching of the DLP as something like the "Glorious Revolution" or the "New Ideas." In general, however, political analysts agree that the DJP intends to use the merger to extend its reins of power, whereas the RDP sees it as an opportunity to seize power, and the NDRP needed it for survival.

Therefore, if each of the three political parties which has been absorbed into the DLP, is to concentrate on its own goal of the merger, clan politics is bound to tremble. In addition, it is obvious that the heterogeneous quality of human resources, which has revealed fundamental differences among the three political parties, will become the key element obstructing the smooth sailing of clan politics.

It is expected that the mainstream clan of the DLP will first consist of the DJP, the RDP and the NDRP, and then these will branch into several factions.

Paradoxically, it is said that the first such branch will be the DJP faction, which makes it a rule to be in perfect order.

Because of the holistic nature of the government party, it probably will not get out of the large DJP circle; however, should the clan politics begin in earnest, the factional work of the DJP group would be rather simpler than that of the other two groups because of its particular composition of people.

This is an easy analogy based on the DJP's internal situation that resulted from the process of the merger of three parties. Thus, it is expected that the DJP faction will be divided into mainstream and non-mainstream factions under the upper-level organs of President No Tae-u and Representative Pak Tae-chun, and then further alignments will occur within themselves. It is understood that the internal branching of the RDP and NDRP factions will be less significant than that of the DJP. This is not only because Mr Kim Yong-sam and Mr Kim Chong-pil come to the DLP as bosses of their respective lineage while retaining their status as established individual leaders, but also because their subordinates are aware that it would be difficult for them to secure their foothold within the DLP if they leave the two Kims.

Thus, the domain of the RDP's and the NDRP's power depends on how big a role the two Kims play in the DLP. What is noteworthy here is the direction of the next supreme power.

As rumor has it, if it becomes apparent that Mr Kim Yong-sam would become the next supreme authority, the RDP faction would be able to expand its power; otherwise, the RDP faction will probably find it difficult to move about within the DLP. However, Mr Kim Yong-sam thinks that although the RDP circle that he leads into the DLP might be sufficient for his entry into the supreme power, it will not be easy to manage it.

Thus, the concerned DLP officials say, Mr Kim Yong-sam will carry out clan surgery, and in such a case, the possibility of clan reform will become a reality. On the other hand, Mr Kim Chong-pil is expected to tightly unite all NDRP factions first, and then he will concentrate on the maintenance of the status quo while trying to secure his share.

The new clan politics that the DLP is about to launch is also expected to have an impact on the opposition party. However, it appears that the effect is not something that prepares for the birth of clan politics within the new opposition party that is being formed by the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) and the remainder of the RDP, but is rather something that falls short of influencing the future countermeasure of the opposition circle.

If the PPD were to adopt a collective leadership system in order to consolidate the opposition circles, the clan politics could be realized within the opposition circle, too. But this appears highly improbable at present.

In any case, the new clan politics of the DLP is becoming a reality. However, insofar as the mainstream of the three factions is not formed on the basis of ideological grounds, the prospect of clan politics that assumes constitutional revision for a parliamentary system will inevitably change, depending on the recruitment of parliamentary members on the active list.

* Mainstream DJP Faction

902C0150 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
9 Feb 90 p 3

[Article by reporter Cho Myong-ku]

[Text] With 127 seats in the Assembly, the DJP [Democratic Justice Party] faction is the majority shareholder and the largest faction within the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party], a newly merged party.

However, the leader who will lead the DJP faction within the party has not yet surfaced. Thus, its prospects are expected to be outlined gradually only after the change of power structure which will take some time.

Since its foundation, the DJP has been locked in a system of perfect order centered on its president, and no official admission was allowed even for a clan faction in the sense of having an intermediate boss. Moreover, formation of a faction centered on a specific individual is not easy because of the physiological nature of the government circle. Thus, although the launching of the DLP signals a new clan politics, no immediate branching of the DJP faction is expected.

However, the DJP faction is expected to be divided largely into mainstream and non-mainstream factions under the upper-level organs of President No Tae-u and Representative Pak Tae-chun. At this point, the DLP will be administered jointly by the three representatives of each party until the moment of the party's national convention; but if President No is put in charge of the party's presidency after the convention, Representative Pak will apparently assume the major "role" of President No for the DJP faction.

At the same time, it is expected that Secretary General Pak Chun-pyong, who will become secretary general of the new party, and First Minister of State Pak Chol-on will become the backbone of the DLP faction. In other words, Representative Pak will predictably take the role of a "front runner," while Secretary General Pak will administer the party affairs and First Minister of State Pak will pull the wires, thereby enabling the DJP faction to establish a real power base.

In general, it is said in political circles that it will be difficult for Representative Pak to directly establish a network of people for some time because he lacks roots within the party.

However, if Representative Pak were to give full play to his particular drive and distinguished affinity, there could be sufficient room for him to establish an unexpected power base.

Representative Pak has maintained a relative degree of intimacy with the DJP's assemblymen of all districts who are not attached to any particular district, and has long maintained exceptional relations with those who supported former Assemblyman Chong Ho-yong.

In particular, the following figures maintain close relations with Representative Pak regardless of his political disposition: former Representative Pak Chun-kyu, former Secretary General Chong Sok-mo, and Assemblymen Yi Tong-chin, Yi To-son, O Han-ku, Kim Chin-chae, Yi Chin-u, and Yi Chong-mu. It is particularly noteworthy that Assemblymen Yi Chong-chan, Yi Chun-ku, Kim Yun-hwan, and Yi Han-tong, who play the role of an intermediate boss, met with Representative Pak in the afternoon on 8 February and agreed to solidify the party centered on him.

After all, this is an indication of the DLP's common understanding that the DJP faction will be controlled by Representative Pak and the formation of a human network, such as an intermediate clan, will be temporarily restrained. Thus, it can be interpreted as a declaration that the DLP will establish a joint line in the form of combined clan centered on Representative Pak.

All the prominent figures who attended the meeting stressed the party's solidarity and intended to establish a united pan-DJP faction with Representative Pak at the top. This, in fact, means that recognizing the fact that the prospect of First Minister of State Pak has become highly visible and that he is indeed expanding his power gradually, they have agreed on the need to take more positive and effective countermeasures.

It could mean that at least until the party system is put in good order after the launching of the new party, the DJP faction wants to voluntarily block the possibility of discord among the home family members while making the most of its vested rights which are relatively superior to that of the RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] and NDRP [New Democratic Republican Party] factions.

In fact, criticisms against First Minister of State Pak, who is known as a behind-the-scenes force of the Sixth Republic because he is deeply trusted by President No, have grown considerably in proportion to his roles and the number of supporters.

However, the DJP faction is expected to strengthen his status to a greater extent because of his role in leading the political reform since the liquidation of the Fifth Republic.

Minister Pak is attempting a gradual transfer from the behind-the-scenes role to an "all-out appearance," and also the internal party forces that have followed him have begun to rise to the surface. Thus, the "Pak Chol-on Division" is expected to establish a tough mainstream within the DJP faction. Thus far, Minister Pak has used a decentralized method in managing some of his own organizations, such as the Laurel Tree Association, which was his private organization during the period of 13th presidential election, the North Policy Research Institute, the Institute of the Yellow Sea Problems, and the "Society of 63." But he is expected to combine these forces into a single unit. His followers within the party include some 20 parliamentary members, such as Na Chang-chu, Kang Chae-sop, Yi Kung-kyu, Pak Sung-chae, Yi Sang-hoe, Kim Chong-kil, Kim Kil-hong, Kim Chin-yong, Kim In-yong, Yi Tok-ho, Cho Yong-chang, Sin Yong-sun, and Yi Chae-hwang, and over 10 nonparliamentary members, such as Yu Chong-yol (District Kap, Tongtaemun, Seoul) and Kim Yong-kyun (District Ul, Tongnae, Pusan).

They recently held an informal meeting and pledged unity. In addition, Minister Pak said privately, "Thus far, only about 15 first-term Assemblymen have been disclosed, but when the time comes, the second- and third-term Assemblymen will also be disclosed as members of our clan." Thus, he even hinted that he has connections with quite a few figures within the DJP faction. In fact, word has been spreading that cabinet-level figures, including Mr H of the Government Legislative Administration Agency, some of the high-ranking party officials, and leading Assemblymen, too, have long maintained a "secret relationship" with Minister Pak, and such a sign is being perceived everywhere.

However, there is also a considerably large force checking Minister Pak's rise.

Minister Pak, too, has taken such a party atmosphere into account, and thus he will probably keep his eyes on the current of power while staying on in the post of First Minister of State for a while even after the launching of the DLP. But many observers say that he will probably be assigned a key post within the party by the end of this year at the latest.

Although the power base is weak for Secretary General Pak Chun-pyong, who is rising as a leading force in the formation of the new party, he is expected to take the role of a "wooden support" for the DJP faction centered on Representative Pak while strengthening his own resolution upon political reform.

Thus, the DJP faction is expected to appear to go through a "wrap-up" process, in which the system of Representative Pak is put together, while closely watching the movement of the Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil factions. At the same time, First Minister of State Pak Chol-on is expected to work behind the scenes to gain a chance to expand his power and make a full-scale entry into the age of new clan politics.

* Non-Mainstream DJP Faction

902C0150 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
11 Feb 90 p 3

[Article by reporter Yi Yu-sik]

[Text] The DJP [Democratic Justice Party] faction, which makes up the largest part of the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party], held a five-person meeting on 8 February and reached a consensus to establish a "single line" centered on supreme council member Pak Tae-chun. In other words, former Secretary General Yi Chong-chan and former Floor Leaders Kim Yun-hwan and Yi Han-tong, who, as influential people at the intermediate level, had been steadily expanding their power and had been keeping each other in check in the past, joined former Secretary General Yi Chun-ku to form a consolidated line.

Their decision to "take the same boat" was due to the President No Tae-u's request for solidarity of the DJP faction after delegating part of his authority to Representative Pak, but it was, in fact, a result of the sentiment that fellow sufferers have sympathy for each other, which was developed during the process of founding the new party.

It is said that the new party, which is led by First Minister of State Pak Chol-on, was basically supposed to provide President No with a new political power that is unlike the DJP's. Thus, it is said, the prospect of those four figures was the same as that of the DJP, which is being dissolved.

Moreover, the Laurel Tree Association, which is led by Minister Pak, has made its way to power through the cracks of the TK [Taegu-Kyongsang] faction, which split after the resignation of former Assemblyman Chong Ho-yong. This fact served to amplify their sense of alienation and discontent in connection with the new party.

Considering that three of those four figures, except former Secretary General Yi Chun-ku, have not hesitated to disclose their dreams for supreme power, they seem to have found themselves in a situation where they must inevitably revise their short- and mid-term strategies alongside the launching of the new party.

Their relationship was once known as "incompatible as oil and water." Based on such a background, it appears that they easily agreed to join the united front led by Representative Pak as a way of saving themselves. Also, in view of the power structure, we cannot help saying that they wanted to establish a powerful network for the purpose of checking Minister Pak's rise to the surface.

In reality, however, it would be difficult to gather all 127 members of the DJP faction under the one umbrella of Representative Pak. Moreover, with only three more years to go, President No's leadership will inevitably become weaker and weaker. Thus, their union is seen as a transitional structure that is based on strategic accounts.

In other words, it is pointed out, they took the same boat in order to turn the tide during the early period of the new party's sailing, but a large gap exists among their interests in both power and region. Thus, it is said, the effort to establish a united front is nothing but a mere "crouching" to declare an independent faction ultimately.

In fact, they have recently sped up the pace of their activities and have been holding meetings to muster factional reserves, regardless of quantity or quality.

Because of his potential to lead a minority faction, former Secretary General Yi Chong-chan still occupies a superior position. Although the merger of the parties made a dent in his plans, former Secretary General Yi, who has been getting his own people together while keeping himself in the non-mainstream circle of the former DJP, has taken the merger as an opportunity to openly form his own faction and is now speeding up his efforts to expand his network.

Former Secretary General Yi has received substantial support from prominent figures in the areas of Seoul and Kyonggi Province, including a non-parliamentary chairman. He has recently received a favorable response from the former members of the government circle, including former Assemblyman Kwon Ik-hyon who was left out of the 13th public nomination. In addition, because of his usual standing against political reform that excludes the Honam district [the southwestern part of Korea], he is receiving significant support from the chairmen of this district.

The parliamentary members who maintain a close relationship include Assemblymen Yun Kil-chung, Nam Chae-hi, Yi Tae-sop, O Yu-pang, Kang Song-mo, and Kim Ki-pae in Seoul, and Assemblymen Sim Chong-ku, Yi Kang-hui, Hwang Chol-su, Yi Ung-hui, Yi Ki-pin, Cho Kyong-mok, Yi Sang-ha, and Yim In-kyu.

In the sense that the relationship between former Secretary General Yi and these people is based on "temperament" rather than on a territorial or academic relation, their unity lacks a strong tie; however, it is noteworthy that former Secretary General Yi is rumored to have been in touch with members of the TK faction recently, while making himself clear, saying, "We must avoid a clan that is based on a geographical connection."

Former Floor Leader Yi Han-tong, too, was once shocked by the news of the new party. He is also in a rush to expand a potential faction. On 2 February, for example, he called a meeting of the Association 13, which is a social gathering of the first-term assemblymen in his own territory Kyonggi Province, to strengthen their relations. Since making his entry into the political circle in 1980, former Floor Leader Yi has alternately held the key posts of the party and the cabinet and worked as an examiner of the public nomination for the later part of the 12th period, all of which helped him gather power. However, it is true that he has been trying to take it easy to avoid generating an impression of disloyalty. Recently, Assemblyman Chong Tong-song, who had been known as the second man next to former Floor Leader Yi, publicly criticized former Floor Leader Yi, taking an equivocal attitude and thereby creating confusion. There are various explanations for this, but one is former Floor Leader Yi's management style. Those who are said to maintain friendly relations with him include Assemblymen Kim Yong-ku, Pak Chae-hong, Yi Song-ho, Chong Hae-nam, So Chong-hwa, and Yim Mu-ung. Assemblyman Yi Min-sop, too, is fairly close to him in psychological terms. Also, former Floor Leader Yi has recently shown interest in members of the Kangwon district, including Assemblyman Sim Myong-po.

Former Floor Leader Kim Yun-hwan, more than anyone else, insists on an inevitable formation of a minority faction. He says that using his relation with President No, he would like to take the role of mediating between the factions if conflicts arise because of different interests or power struggle. However, the dominant opinion is that when the time comes he will step up to the front with his own banner held high because the TK faction, which makes up the largest part of the DJP, has been losing its focal point since former Assemblyman Chong's resignation.

In particular, it is said, at a time when negative feelings are running high among the assemblymen who signed a petition in connection with former Assemblyman Chong's resignation, former Floor Leader Kim is the right person to lead the TK faction because of his reputation in human relations and fund raising.

At present, he is said to have a sincere relationship with Assemblymen Yu Su-ho, Choe Un-chi, Chang Yong-chol, Kim Chin-chae, Sin Kyong-sik, Chong Tong-ho, Kim Chong-ki, Kwon Hae-ok, Kim Tae-ho, Choe Chae-ku, and Son Chu-hwan. It is also said that the following petitioning group could join the force when the time comes: Assemblymen Kim Yong-tae, O Han-ku, Chong Chang-hwa, Chong Tong-yun, Yi Sang-tuk, Yu Ton-u, and Yi Chong-mu.

It is also said that former Floor Leader Kim is presently being asked to cooperate with key factions of the party and that he has a broad range of acquaintances in the Democratic and Republican factions.

Because former Secretary General Yi Chun-ku does not like working in groups, he is not particularly interested in the clan, but he is a key prospect for a minority faction because of his background and his relation with President No. In other words, he is close to Assemblymen Sim Myong-po, Kim Tae-ho, Cho Kyong-mok, and Yi Hae-ku.

Based on these, most analysts conclude that the influential people at the intermediate level, which is an isolated force of the new party, will temporarily take cover under Representative Pak's umbrella and will continue to protect the internal structure and expand their power behind the scenes, but their movement to form their own faction will take an official turn by year-end at the latest.

* RDP Faction

902C0150 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
14 Feb 90 p 3

[Article by reporter Kim Su-chong]

[Text] Of the three factions within the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party], the RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] faction, which is composed of 54 parliamentary members led by supreme council member Kim Yong-sam, is expected to occupy a unique position in the new government circle. Its parliamentary force takes up only 25 percent of the new government circle; however, because the RDP faction is made up of the opposition groups centered on supreme council member Kim, it is highly probable that it could act as an unpredictable variable during the remaining half of the 13th political stage that is centered on the party politics.

In general, political analysts say that compared with the DJP [Democratic Justice Party] and NDRP [New Democratic Republican Party] factions, the RDP faction will be characterized by its strong "self-cohesion" and expansion-oriented "aggression."

First of all, the cohesion of the RDP faction is something like a tenacious "comradeship" originating from the long experience of sharing their pleasures and pains while serving in the opposition circle. Also, such a cohesion was developed while its members received protection from supreme council member Kim either because of their private relations with him or because of his influence. This is proven by the fact that all the assemblymen who used to pride themselves on being members of the 30-year old mainstream opposition party have rushed to enter the new political system developed by supreme council member Kim and a few executives.

Because the RDP assemblymen maintain a one-to-one relationship with supreme council member Kim, it can be said that they belong to a faction that does not need an intermediate boss.

Of importance in the RDP faction is a group of former secretaries, including Assemblymen Mun Chong-su, Kim Pong-cho, Sim Wan-ku, Kim Tong-kyu, So Chong-won, Kim Tok-yong, and Choe Ki-son. These people have worked as secretaries under supreme council member Kim during his long political career. Although a certain degree of intimacy and rivalry exists among them, they maintain a vertical relationship and support their boss with enthusiasm.

As it turned out, Assemblyman Kim Tong-yong has paved his way as a mid-level manager, and Assemblyman Choe Hyong-u has stopped advocating the "unification of the opposition circles" and has jumped into supreme council member Kim's camp. Other assemblymen who maintain personal relations with supreme council member Kim in all directions include Hwang Myong-su, Kang Po-song, Kang Sin-ok, Kim U-sok, Paek Nam-chi, Kim Il-tong, Kim Un-hwan, Yi In-che, Sin Ha-chol, Pak Kyong-su, Sin Yong-kuk, and Yu Sung-kyu. In addition, the following assemblymen can hardly attempt to run for the 14th general election without support from supreme council member Kim: Chong Sang-ku (Pusan), Pak Kwan-yong (Pusan), Kim Chong-su (Pusan), Chong Chae-mun (Pusan), Ho Chae-hong (Pusan), Kang Sam-chae (South Kyongsang Province), Paek Chan-ki (SKP), Kim Tong-chu (SKP), Cho Man-hu (SKP), and Pak Chae-kyu (SKP).

Also, the vice speaker of the National Assembly, Kim Chae-kwang, and Assemblymen Sin Sang-u, Hwang Nak-chu, Pak Yong-man, Pak Chong-yul, and Chong Chong-hun could not find any way to survive other than joining the DLP after all.

Thus, some say that supreme council member Kim's influential power over the members of the RDP faction could be stronger in the new government circle than in the former RDP circle.

The former nonparliamentary presidents, too, have placed their political lifeline in the hands of supreme council member Kim for now.

The other trait of the RDP faction is its inclination toward "expansionism." This is easily explained by the fact that the RDP faction has abandoned its status as a mainstream opposition party in order to join the new party and by the supreme council member Kim's will and action to come into power.

Members of the RDP faction said, "Once the DLP has been completely organized after the party convention, supreme council member Kim will launch a task for clan expansion." They predict that supreme council member Kim will keep his eyes on the DJP faction, which maintains a pool of professional manpower.

The RDP members predict that supreme council member Kim's task of clan expansion will probably commence after he becomes the supreme representative at the party convention in April.

It is suspected, however, that supreme council member Kim may launch a clan expansion contest only to become the next president. His close associates insist that "there will be no factional activities," and there seems to be no plan to establish a private office or factional office in the near future.

An associate of supreme council member Kim said, "He is not in a position to rival President No, and as supreme representative he could discuss with DJP people only the issues of party administration." This should probably not be taken lightly.

Assemblyman Hwang Pyong-tae, who was instrumental in the "political reform of 22 January," put it more clearly, saying, "It is wrong to predict the political shape of the DLP solely based on what we know about Japanese politics which is centered on money and faith," a noteworthy comment.

Based on the DLP's command structure, Assemblyman Hwang predicts that the following events will serve as turning points of particular importance, which will result in an inversely proportional distribution of power between President No and supreme council member Kim within the DLP: the party convention in Aprl, the public nomination of the 14th Assembly at the end of 1991, and the general elections in 1992.

In other words, this means that at present the great power within the DLP undoubtedly belongs to President No and that supreme council member Kim should not act anxiously but should concentrate on a harmonious management of the party. Because the presidential power tends to decline during the lame-duck period, President No is expected to have a similar amount of influence within the party in about 1991 when his power declines.

Such a prediction by Assemblyman Hwang, who says that the "political situation is mobile," could indicate a possibility of functional division among the factions of the DJP, the RDP and the NDRP.

It is said that President No's decision itself to take down the signboard of the DJP, which brought him to the supreme power, could indicate the existence of a tacit understanding that there will be no infinite rivalry among factions within the DLP.

Thus, it cannot be ruled out that supreme council member Kim could work with key figures of the DJP faction and take a leadership role within the new government party, rather than launching a costly task of "unreasonable expansion of a faction" that could cause conflicts within the party. There is a thread of connections between this and the underlying thought behind the political reform, which is basically to put an honorable finishing touch of "One No and Two Kims" in the political circle.

Thus, it is also predictable that the RDP faction will be weathered into a new organization which will have a somewhat diminished influence of the opposition kind of the old days and that it will be divided into a mainstream power group, including Assemblymen Kim

Tong-yong and Kim Tok-yong, and a group of a few assemblymen who can take an intermediary role in the new government circle.

Unlike such a rosy outlook of clan expansion, some assemblymen are concerned that supreme council member Kim and the RDP faction could become extinct in a melting furnace of the monstrous power. They say that our political environment is highly dynamic and the nature of power is rather cruel.

Not to mention the internal variables of the government circle, such as the supreme council member Kim Chong-pil's path, the discord within the DJP faction, and the factional movement of First Minister of State Pak Chol-on, other factors that affect the fate of the RDP faction include the surrounding situation of the PPD [Party of Peace and Democracy] and the new opposition circles.

* NDRP Faction in DLP

902C0150 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
15 Feb 90 p 3

[Article by reporter Chong Pyong-chin]

[Text] The NDRP [New Democratic Republican Party], a minority faction within the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party], is certainly led by supreme council member Kim Chong-pil, but has no choice but to remain as a dependent variable within the DLP for some time. In fact, the political terms, such as "political reform" and the "great merger of the conservatives," were supreme council member Kim's "trademarks," but the NDRP faction was only an extra on the stage of the merger of three parties. Maybe because supreme council member Kim realized this situation himself, he volunteered to play a "supporting role" and become a "prop."

Thus, the answer to the question of whether the NDRP can survive and share the roles of clan politics within the power structure of the gigantic government party is thought to depend on the external conditions, such as the direction of the DJP [Democratic Justice Party] and RDP factions, as well as on supreme council member Kim's political ability.

Since the DLP merger convention of 5 February, supreme council member Kim has deliberately shown a negative attitude on the formation of factions, saying, "We have not even come to the point where we can feel the body temperature of one another."

However, supreme council member Kim's expression that he is "not interested in clan politics" sounds as strange as supreme council member Kim Yong-sam's saying that he is "not interested in coming into power."

In a situation where the acting supreme council member of the DJP faction Pak Tae-chun has almost declared a clan politics, saying, "The people with the same surname naturally tend to seek each other," and at a time when the RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] assemblymen are expected to tighten their connections with supreme council member Kim Yong-sam within the DLP, the NDRP members will inevitably be led to form their own faction in reaction.

Moreover, among the three supreme council members, Mr Kim Chong-pil had had a bitter experience of factionalism in the reins of Republican Party in the 1960's and 1970's. Thus, he is said to have the confidence that he "can do it if necessary." Therefore, it can be said that the political activities of the Unchong (supreme council member Kim's pen name) faction will be in line with clan movements of the DJP and RDP factions.

Because of Assemblyman Kim Hyon's belated defection on 14 February, the NDRP faction now has 34 seats in the National Assembly, 23 of which are occupied by the first-term assemblymen. By and large, they are divided into a group of members of the former Republican Party and its government and a group of newcomers who won in the general election of 26 April.

Assemblymen Yi Pyong-hui, Yi Chong-kun, Kim Yong-chae, Sin Chol-kyun, and O Yong-un had worked with supreme council member Kim in the Republican Party, and Assemblymen Ku Cha-chun, Kim Yong-hwan, Choe Kak-kyu, and Yi Hui-il had been Cabinet members of the Republican government. That is why supreme council member Kim had self-confidence despite the small number of parliamentary seats.

Obviously, these assemblymen of the former Republican Party and the non-parliamentary members, including former Assemblyman Choe Chae-ku, will form the core of the Unchong faction.

The lower-level of the NDRP faction is made up of the first-term assemblymen who won in the general election of 26 April. At that time, in the "wind of Kim Chong-pil," they took part in securing a parliamentary beachhead. Most of them are tightly connected to supreme council member Kim by "loyalty and obligation" and have a clear one-to-one relationship with him. In particular, the first-term assemblymen in the Chungchong district remain deep in the shadow of supreme council member Kim.

Assemblymen Sin O-chol (Seoul), Yu Ki-su (Seoul), Pak Chung-sun (Taechon), Yun Song-han (Taechon), Kim Yong-man (Taechon), Kim Pyong-yong (Kyonggi Province), Yi Taek-sok (Kyonggi Province), Choe Mu-ryong (Kyonggi Province), Pak Pyong-son (South Chungchong Province), Yi In-ku (SCP), Kim Che-tae (SCP), Kim Chong-sik (SCP), Cho Pu-yong (SCP), Yun Chae-ki (SCP), Chong Il-yong (SCP), and Yi Chae-yon (North Kyongsang Province) have a broad range of relations with supreme council member Kim and are expected to serve like tools of the NDRP faction from now on.

Although under the umbrella of the NDRP faction, this is the group that is most likely to form individual organizations. In particular, Assemblymen Yi Taek-sok, Yu Ki-su, Kim Hong-man, and Yun Chae-ki have formed "Reunion of 1 March" to voice their concerns, and it is said that in the long run, they could possibly display a key leadership in case the relationship among the three DLP factions loses its balance.

Supreme council member Kim has recognized this, too. Although Mr Kim has not appointed any of them to an intermediary role, he is expected to choose a "deputy" for a "managerial delegation" in the future.

In connection with this, an elder of the NDRP faction said, "Thus far a successful career was possible only in supreme council member Kim's hands, but it will no longer be so." He added, "Some of these people pride themselves on making their entries into politics through hard work." He cautiously predicted, "They could show the typical characteristics of clan politics wherein the most advantageous strategic points are sought."

Also, Assemblymen Yi Tae-yop and Kim Mun-won of Kyonggi Province, who have hardened their districts regardless of the NDRP signboard, could move independently depending on the situation.

In order to ensure the continued existence of the [NDRP] faction, supreme council member Kim will inevitably choose to initiate the NDRP members into the secrets or the possibility of clan expansion.

Recently, supreme council member Kim has been repeatedly saying, "It has never been informally arranged as to who will succeed the president." This, after all, could indicate his intent to enable the [NDRP] assemblymen to keep the secrets.

It can be said that some of supreme council member Kim's activities, such as planning to expand his in-law Han Pyong-ki's private office and his frequent visits to the high-ranking officials of the former government circle, are in preparation for the possibility of clan rivalry that necessitates a constant movement for survival.

Supreme council member Kim's target within the DLP is probably assemblymen of the former Republican Party. This is because they had once considered supreme council member Kim as a potential successor of Pak Chong-hui and because they are the "alter egos" who understand each other very well.

However, because they have already become power-hungry individuals rather than being attracted by "clan politics," it is questionable as to whether they will become interested in a minority faction that has plenty of weaknesses.

Therefore, although supreme council member Kim has brought the entire parliamentary members of his party into the DLP, the conditions for his political career within the DLP are extremely limited. The fate of the NDRP faction is expected to depend more or less on the bright as well as the dark side of the two big factions—DJP and RDP—rather than depending solely on its own capacity.

Poll Shows Drop in Popularity of Ruling Party

SK2804071590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0508 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Seoul, April 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—Support for the government party in South Korea has fallen from 43 percent to 14 percent in three months because of feuding within the Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) leadership, according to a poll by the party's private research institute.

A poll March 15 to April 24 of 1,300 voters across the country gave the DLP a 14 percent approval rating, the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) 18.8 percent and the Democratic Party 23.8 percent, the Social Development Research Institute said.

A poll a month earlier by the same institute had put the DLP first with 28 percent support, the PPD second at 16.1 percent and the Democratic Party at 12.6 percent.

The DLP had a 43 percent support rate right after the jan. 22 merger in which the former ruling Democratic Justice Party joined hands with the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) and the New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP), and a 36 percent rating in mid-February.

The party's ebbing fortunes plunged in mid-April, when people frustrated at a feud between co-leader Kim Yong-sam, the former RDP head, and now-resigned first state minister for political affairs Pak Chol-on, alter ego of President No Tae-u and a powerful leader of the Taegu-Kyongbuk faction in the DLP, a political analyst said.

The rumor that there was written agreement among the three DLP co-leaders, No, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil, the former NDRP leader, over who will run the party and the following commotion between two big factions aggravated the situation, sapping support for the DLP in favor of the other parties, he said.

While Kim Tae-chung's PPD shows no big change in its support, the nascent Democratic Party, being formed by RDP members who refused to go along with the merger, saw an explosion in popularity from 12.6 percent to 23.8 percent.

According to the poll, the national dissidents' coalition to inaugurate a progressive political party is fast gaining ground, rising to 5.2 percent from 3.7 percent.

On the other hand, the poll found that deep-rooted distrust of political parties persists and 39 percent of the respondents said they do not support any party.

Korea Development Bank Opens Budapest Branch

SK2804020690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 28 Apr 90 p 6

[Text] The Korea Development Bank formally opened a branch office in Budapest yesterday in a ceremony attended by some 400 dignitaries. It is the first time that a Korean bank has opened an office in an East-bloc nation.

The bank will extend financial support to Korean businesses in Hungary and deal with matters concerning Korean firms' investment in Hungary and bilateral trade, a bank official said.

Auto Exports to Communist Countries Increase

SK3004095490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0706 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Seoul, April 30 (YONHAP)—South Korea sold 1,173 cars to communist nations in the first quarter, up from 280 in the same period last year, the Korea Automobile Manufacturers Association (KAMA) said Monday.

Automakers shipped 1,173 cars to the Soviet Union, China, Yugoslavia and Vietnam, up 318 percent from a year earlier, a KAMA official said. He said 624 Korean cars were sold to China, 335 to Yugoslavia, 181 to Vietnam and 33 to the Soviet Union.

Hyundai sold 1,020 cars to the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, China and Vietnam, which took 551 of Hyundai's 1,468 cubic centimeter excels.

Kia exported 48 micro-buses and 20 compact prides to Vietnam and 23 cars to China.

Daewoo exported 50 1,500 cc LeMans to China, and Asia shipped one bus to Yugoslavia.

Hyundai is to ship 1,000 cars to Yugoslavia by late May and hopes to sell more than 5,000 cars to communist countries this year, a business source said.

Korea exported 5,544 cars to Communist-Bloc nations last year, including 3,000 to Yugoslavia and 2,067 to China.

* 7-Year High-Tech Development Plan Outlined

* Overview of Plan

902C0137A Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 3 Feb 90 p 1

[Text] **38 Trillion Won To Be Invested in High Tech**

The government has decided to actively foster high tech industries as the foundation of growth in the 1990's. It plans to invest a total of 38 trillion won for the development of science and technology in the next seven years and to increase the percentage of science and technology investment to the GNP to 4 percent by 1996 from 2.6 percent in 1989.

To this end, the government will expand financial support and tax breaks for high tech investment, create high tech complexes in five cities, namely, Kwangju, Pusan, Taegu, Chonju, and Kangnung and push for establishment of high tech-related specialized universities such as electronics and semiconductor universities in these cities. On the afternoon of 2 February the government convened the High Tech Industry Development Commission (with Vice Prime Minister Cho Sun as chairman) to deliberate a "seven-year high tech and industrial development plan" and decided to introduce a related extraordinary measures law bill in the National Assembly during the first half of this year.

Of the total 38 trillion won investment, the government will provide 11.5 trillion won, or about 30 percent, and the share of high tech development investment in the total science and technology investment will increase from 18 percent in 1989 to 30 percent by 1996.

To this end, a high tech development fund to the tune of 1 trillion won will be established to provide long-term loans with an annual interest rate of about 6 percent or subsidies to high tech development projects. At the same time, the scale of the government outlays for specially designated research and development projects will be drastically increased from the present 89 billion won to 300 billion won in order to provide support for 60 categories of research and development, including the development of an artificial intelligence computer. The government also decided to permit enterprises investing in high tech to issue overseas conversion bonds (CB's) and otherwise expand financial assistance to them while increasing tax benefits for high tech investment by including such investment in the list of tax-deductible special categories of capital investments.

At the same time, the government plans to establish and operate a "research and development project group" under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Science and Technology in order to effectively manage government investment in technology development and spread the fallouts of research and development into the whole industrial sector.

* Details of Plan

902C0137B Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 3 Feb 90 p 1

[Report by reporter Pak Se-hun: "The Details of the Seven-Year High Tech Industry Development Plan"]

[Text] **60 Specific Targets Set, Including Development of an Artificial Intelligence Computer**

On 2 February, the government finalized the high tech development plan after a long period of deliberation. The plan period has been extended to seven years from the initially projected five years in order to complete all investment by the end of 1996 so that the plan may proceed in parallel with the forthcoming seventh five-year social and economic development plan. Also the seventh five-year plan, which will be finalized early next year, will envisage concentrated investment in high tech as one of the three major development targets.

The reason that the government has decided to make an all-out effort to develop high technology with a total investment of 38 trillion won as part of the development of science and technology is that it intends to use the development of high tech as a means of tiding over the current crisis facing our economic growth.

Spurs on Information, Automation

Despite the continuing economic slump caused by sluggish exports since last year, the way out has not yet been found because of the inability to replace the sagging main line of export items with a new one. This is because our industry has failed to develop new commodities through the development of new technology. In the past, we were able to achieve economic growth by borrowing science and technology from the advanced countries, but the situation has changed and we have to break the present predicament through our own technological development.

Japan was able to overcome the tremendous predicament caused by the radical appreciation of the yen because its base of industrial technology was so sound that it was able to make a quick shift to high added-value commodities. For instance, when its tableware export was faced with difficulty as a result of challenge from the ROK and other countries, it replaced the main line of export articles with exportable knives and laser-processed knives and razors.

To base our industrial structure on high technology, our government is pushing for the development of high tech industries. The government plans to shift our leading industries, represented by textiles, footwear, and shipping in the 1970's and by computers, VCR's, and automobiles in the 1980's, to industries centering on high tech, such as information, automation, and new materials industries.

Under this plan, the share of high tech products in manufactured goods will be increased to 15.4 percent by 1994 and to 20 percent by the year 2000 from 8.3 percent in 1987, and the share of high tech products in exports to more than 20 percent by 1994 from 5.8 percent.

To this end, the government's investment plan envisages a total investment of 38 trillion won for the development of science and technology—26.8 trillion won in the private sector and 11.2 trillion won in the government sector. Of the total science and technology investment, the government will share 30 percent, which is low compared with the government shares in the United States (49 percent) and West Germany (40 percent) but higher than that in Japan (20 percent).

To build up financial resources for these investments, the government will increase research and development outlays at the Korea Telecommunication Authority (KTA), the Korea Electric Co, and other government investment firms to between 3 and 5 percent from current 1 percent, and expand the investment scope for specially designated research and development targets to the level of 300 billion won by 1996. As special research targets, 60 development tasks, including the development of an artificial intelligence computer, will be selected.

The high tech development projects the government plans to undertake beginning this year include the development of a magnetic levitation (ML) linear motor car and a high-definition television set (HDTV). The government plans to invest a total of 120 billion won for the development of an artificial intelligence computer by 1999 and undertake this year to develop a test model of an ML car with the completion goal set at the year 2000. As for HDTV's, the plan calls for their production on a commercial basis by 1995.

At the same time, by actively pushing the VSLI semiconductor development plan which it already undertook early this year, the government plans to develop 16-megabit DRAM's by the end of this year and 64-megabit DRAM's by the end of 1992. In addition, the government plans to push for automaton in ship designing and shipbuilding by developing computer systems.

R&D Project Group

Another characteristic of the high tech industry development plan is that the government will actively push for joint technology development by the private and government sectors in various ways, for instance, by expanding the availability of the defense research and development fund to private-sector research organizations. Up to now, the National Defense and Science Institute has been the only recipient of this fund. For the purpose of spreading the fallouts of research and development, a permanent "research and development project group" will be established and operated within the government.

While drastically increasing investment in high tech, the government will avoid direct support to private enterprises with main emphasis placed on indirect support, such as developing demand and providing assistance in seeking plant sites and manpower. At the same time, the government will increase support to small and medium enterprises and refrain from targeting assistance toward specific industries in order to avoid trade friction.

To this end, the government will expand financial support and tax benefits for firms investing in high tech, for instance, by permitting them to issue overseas conversion bonds and including the money invested in high tech equipment in the list of tax deductibles. In addition, to expand technical manpower, the government will drastically ease enrollment ceilings in colleges and universities of natural sciences and establish colleges and universities specializing in electronics and other high tech fields.

At present, the level of high technology in our country is said to be about eight years behind the advanced countries. It is no exaggeration to say that future economic growth will depend on how fast this technological gap will be removed.

* Editorial Views High-Tech Development Plan

902C0132A Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 6 Feb 90 p 2

[Editorial: "High-Tech Development Plan—Will To Execute and Operational Strategy Are the Key to Success"]

[Text] 1

The government has recently announced a seven-year high tech and industrial development plan and, to back up its implementation, plans to enact extraordinary measures legislation with a limited duration of enforcement.

The development of high technology is the only alternative in raising our economic society onto an advanced level and overcoming the current economic crisis. That is why the government's strong determination, though it came rather belatedly, to develop high technology is highly appraised and we pin great hopes on it.

The high tech-oriented reorganization of the industrial, trade, and employment structures is progressing rapidly in the advanced countries, and in this process, competition in technology is in the forefront of international competition. Under these circumstances, countries with advanced technologies are taking thoroughgoing security measures for their technologies, for instance, by limiting their technology export. Given the present state of our economy, it is quite obvious that without developing and securing high technology by ourselves it will be impossible to push for a high technology-oriented industrial structuring policy or maintain even the international competitiveness of our existing industries at a time when we have no alternative but to pursue a market-opening policy.

For this reason, in drawing up the seven-year high tech and industrial development plan, the government has decided to boost the output of high tech products by an average of 20 percent a year to increase the share of these products in manufactured goods to 15.4 percent by 1994 and to 20 percent by the year 2000 from 8.3 percent in 1987. In addition, the plan envisions a 22 to 24 percent increase in the export of high tech products, a rate far exceeding the rate of increase in our manufactured exports or that in the worldwide market share of high tech goods, in order to increase high tech products' market share in manufactured exports to 20 percent by 1994 and to 26 percent by the year 2000 from 5.8 percent in 1987.

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This presages the development of high tech-intensive industrial and trade structures. There is great importance in developing high technology by ourselves for these reasons: it is almost impossible to introduce high technology from overseas; not only is there a limit to imitation but also the trading conditions for high technology are very disadvantageous in price and other terms; and in particular, countries are using technology export as a weapon for market strategy. In other words, the view and logic in some quarters that we had better introduce high technology from overseas rather than invest a huge sum of money in technological development for an extended period of time at an enormous risk is not only unrealistic but also impracticable.

The government plans to invest a whopping 38 trillion won for the development of high technology by 1996. This ambitious plan envisages support for capital investment, fostering of demand for high tech products, training of technological personnel, offering of high tech plant sites, and establishment of an administrative system for the promotion of high tech and industrial development.

Specifically, with a view toward achieving effective planning and control and spreading the application of research and development results, the government plans to set up a research and development project group under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Science and Technology. In addition, for the purpose of industrializing high tech manufacture, the government will set up a technological improvement fund for the high tech industry, which will be managed and operated under the supervision of the High Tech Industry Development Committee. Further, for the purpose of developing high technology and helping start new enterprises by using the results of high tech research and development, the government plans to take bold measures to provide support in the areas of tax, financing, and demand stimulation.

As we have pointed out time and time again, everybody supports the science and technology policy in general but, when it comes to the details, the policy has hit many snags in the past. It is feared therefore that any high tech and industrial development plan may be forced to be changed in the first stage of its implementation unless there is a radical change in direction in planning and implementation away from the past practice of being concerned with nothing but macroeconomic models whose main emphasis was on quantitative growth.

3

Following the preparation last April by the Ministry of Science and Technology of a draft of the extraordinary measures law for the promotion of high tech development projects, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and other concerned ministries and agencies took part in working out the bill, and the opinions of the Economic Planning Board and other interested ministries and agencies and economic experts were collected to adjust the plan before finalizing it. Still, there are some basic complementary tasks that remain to be done for the promotion of the high tech industry.

First, it seems that strategic consideration is lacking for high tech development. No clear order of priority has been established for high tech development objectives geared to the trends and main direction in the development of high technology in the advanced countries and our research and development capability; the marketability and profitability of high tech products and the application of high technology to existing products are not clearly envisioned; and no discussion has been held on any strategy for obtaining high technology through international joint research or by other means, and on any measure for participating in technology-oriented international division of labor. These shortcomings need to be complemented fully in the future.

Second, the seven-year high tech development plan ostensibly looks rational, but a lot of contradictions and errors are anticipated when it is actually put into practice. This shortcoming also needs to be complemented. No clear line of demarcation is drawn between the planning and control function of the Research and Development Project Group and its function of spreading the application of research results, nor are the link and division of function clearly delineated between production technology development projects and the high tech industry promotion fund, with the possibility that these functions will overlap. Moreover, the problem is that a high tech complex is envisioned as a mere physical extension of an industrial complex, not as a "technopolis" of new dimensions, or a network of technological centers, which combine research, industry, education, and residence in one. In addition, in training of high tech personnel, the fuzzy linkage between the functions of existing colleges and universities, the Advanced Institute for Science and Technology and special institutes, and the Institute for Industrial Technology is noted as a problem.

Third, the most important task is that of expanding the overall coordinating functions for the development of high technology and for the fostering of high tech industries.

In order that overall control may be maintained on the technology development functions of the Defense, Commerce and Industry, Telecommunications, and Agriculture and Fishery Ministries, as well as the scientific and technological innovation functions of the industrial and academic communities, and that limited resources may be distributed in an effective manner, expertise, consistency, and strategic consideration are indispensable in drawing up plans and policies and in coordinating these plans and policies.

We hope that the view that only when these supplementary measures are taken prudently, will we be able to implement the high tech and industrial development plan and ensure its effectiveness will prevail.

* Differences Among Economic Planners Noted

902C0133 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
7 Feb 90 p 3

[Commentary by reporter Pae In-chun: "Growth First or Stability?—Discord Between the Party and the Administration Over the Economic Policy"]

[Text] Serious differences over the basic direction of economic policy are coming to light between the newly merged Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] (tentative name), which is showing clear signs of wanting to return to a policy with primary emphasis on growth, and the administration's incumbent team of economic affairs ministers, who have been pursuing a course geared primarily to the promotion of stability and social welfare.

The existence of such policy discord between the party and the administration is becoming visible as a result of open criticism launched against the current administration's economic team by some of the DLP's key policy planners.

Some critical observers are of the opinion that the confusion in policies is being exacerbated by a battle over policy leadership between the new party and the economic affairs bureaucracy now in place within the administration.

Still others are taking the view that the new ruling circle, in collaboration with the financial sector, is out to change the basic direction of economic policies and, in that process, is planning to make the incumbent team of economic affairs ministers "a scapegoat for the policy failures."

Be that as it may, the picture is even more complicated because within the DLP itself there is a considerable divergence of viewpoints among its three factions, which represent the Democratic Justice Party [DJP], the Reunification Democratic Party [RDP], and the New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP], regarding the direction of future economic policies.

Worth watching in this connection is the process of policy coordination yet to unfold between the administration and the six-man special committee on economic countermeasures, which was formed on 6 February under the auspices of the new party's inaugural working committee.

The six members of the special committee, made up of two sitting members of the National Assembly from each of the three factions, share one thing in common—all of them are former economic affairs bureaucrats who served during either the Third Republic or the Fifth Republic: the DJP's Yi Sung-yun and Na Ung-pae served at the ministerial level during the Fifth Republic, the RDP's Kim Tong-kyu and Hwang Pyong-tae served at the assistant vice ministerial level during the Third Republic, and the NDRP's Kim Yong-hwan and Yi Hui-il served at the ministerial level during the Third Republic.

The basic tone of the DLP's economic policy has yet to emerge clearly in a monochromatic form.

Nevertheless, when all available indications since the 22 January announcement of the three-party merger are pieced together—indications such as the remarks made by DJP Chairman Pak Tae-chun and its chief policymaker Yi Sung-yun, the joint statement issued on 3 February by No Tae-u and the two Kims, and the general policy drift of the new party's platform, the signs are quite clear that the new party intends to return to a policy aimed primarily at economic growth.

Of course the new party side is making a point of explaining that "even if the primary emphasis were to be on growth, it does not mean that other aspects of the economy, such as distribution, welfare, and structural reforms, would be neglected."

But to achieve the goal of "trebling the national per capita income to $15,000 by the year 2000," as stipulated in the 3 February joint statement by the new party's triumvirs—No Tae-u, Kim Yong-sam, and Kim Chong-pil, would require a sustained high rate of economic growth equal to or better than the level achieved during the 1980's.

In order to achieve the aforementioned goal which has been put forth by the ruling circle, our economy must grow at a rate surpassing the country's growth potential as has generally been assessed. Our growth potential as estimated by the Economic Planning Board and others is about seven percent per annum even under the best of circumstances in terms of political, economic, and social stabilities.

In short, it can be said that the new party's recipe for growth is predicated on an artificial drive for growth. It is also a recipe that can work only when it is assumed that other ingredients in the form of the efforts to reform the distribution, the welfare, and the economic structure are to be, in relative terms, either pushed backward or held in abeyance.

On this question, the DJP's chief policymaker Yi Sung-yun said, "We need to implement a welfare policy with economic growth as its prerequisite." "The policy of these past few years with its primary focus on welfare must be reexamined," he declared.

Continuing, he emphasized: "What is needed is a policy that will energize the overall economic environment through the promotion of exports and investment."

Faced with this mood for a policy reversal on the part of the new party, the administration's economic agencies, including the Economic Planning Board and the Ministry of Finance, are concerned about the possibility that the fundamental economic trend toward stability, which they have been fostering so carefully, could very well be thrown into a chaos of major proportions.

It has been, and still is, a consistent argument of the "Cho Sun economic team" that excessive pertinacity for high growth will only worsen the chronicity of the structural problems of our economy, such as the concentration of economic power, the distortion in distribution, and the tendency toward speculation, and is very likely to weaken our growth potentials in the long run.

"Who would possibly adopt an economic policy that is not premised on growth?" retort those of the incumbent economic team. But when it comes to the question of what is the best way to ensure sustained growth, the answer, they reason, would have to be a policy that simultaneously pursues stability and economic justice.

They, too, have no quarrel with such propositions as firmly establishing industrial peace, keeping wage increases within the limits of productivity, rooting out illegal and destructive labor-management disputes, and formulating a policy that will help promote entrepreneurial vigor. These propositions are entirely congruous with the policy objectives reflected in the new party's platform as well.

In addition, however, members of the present economic team take the position that it is absolutely necessary to ensure a successful implementation of systemic reforms of the economy through the introduction of such new ideas as the true-name banking system and the "land is public" concept.

They are saying that only with systemic redressing of the economic imbalance, inequity, and injustice will it be possible to marshal the growth potentials of the entire people to the maximum and to root out speculative activities of all kinds which, collectively, constitute an economic illness that could destroy our country.

It follows, therefore, that the Cho Sun economic team is taking a dim view of any short-term reflationary measure designed solely to induce growth.

At an informal get-together with reporters on 5 February, Deputy Prime Minister Cho opened his remarks by saying, "The highest priority task is to firmly establish a stable atmosphere for the economy." He then went on to repeat his long-held pet theory with these words: "Some people might expect that taking hasty, artificial reflationary measures, such as lowering interest rates, raising exchange rates, and putting more currency into circulation, would lead to a higher rate of growth; in reality, however, such measures are more likely to have far greater unfavorable side effects such as fueling price increases and real-estate speculations and proliferating the demand for higher wages."

"What we need," he declared, "is not the application of a sweeping reflationary policy but rather a selective application of resources to help and foster desirable activities, such as improving the productivity of enterprises and promoting investment and technological improvement in the manufacturing sector."

In short, the policy objective of the incumbent economic team may be summed up as follows: to seek, without further delay, solutions to all the structural problems that have built up in our economy during the process of a concerted drive for high growth in the past, and to pursue concurrently a steady course aimed at achieving stable growth at the level of seven percent per annum.

This policy stance of the incumbent economic team is drawing generally critical but contrary reactions: the financial world is showing its displeasure, saying that the economic team is "radical in promoting reforms but lukewarm when it comes to taking growth measures"; in contrast, the labor sector and other groups such as the Citizens' Coalition for Promotion of Economic Justice are saying that the team is "murky even in its will to undertake reforms and opportunistic in general."

It is against this background that the basic tone of the new party's economic policy is revealing itself in the form of a pursuit of one rabbit as the primary target—the rabbit called "growth."

Suggestive in this overall context is an article titled "Politics of Structural Reform," contributed to the 17 January edition of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL by Roger Douglas, who served as New Zealand's finance minister from 1984 to 1988. An excerpt from it follows:

"In all countries, most politicians consider it as an act of political suicide, and therefore do everything to avoid it, to take reform initiatives toward remedying structural imbalances in their economies. But, as is documented in an OECD study, during the past 10 years, eight out of 10 countries that ignored such structural imbalances ended up suffering a dramatic decline in the value of their currencies or other forms of economic and social disarray. When that happened, more often than not it led to the downfall of the party then in power, giving way to another party to assume power and carry out the work of structural reforms which could and should have been done a few years earlier."

* Science, Technology Ministry's 1990 Plan

902C0152 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
17 Feb 90 p 13

[Article by reporter Chong Il-hwa: "Science and Technology Will Advance by 30 Years"]

[Text] The Ministry of Science and Technology's 1990 plan, announced on 16 February at the Electronic Communications Research Institutue located in the Taedok Research Complex, is full of ambitious plans which aim to advance the level of South Korea's science and technology by more than 30 years.

According to the plan, South Korea will attempt to catch up with countries with a GNP per capita of more than $20,000 such as the United States, Japan, and West Germany within the next 10 years. In light of South Korea's weak foundation in basic sciences and $5,000 GNP per capita, this plan seems almost impossible to achieve.

The Ministry of Science and Technology's 1990 plan, which appears so ambitious as to be considered almost reckless, contains a seven-year basic plan until 1997 for state of the art technology and industrial development and a comprehensive research plan for basic science; at the same time, The Ministry of Science and Technology intends to lay the foundation within one year, i.e. by the end of 1990.

After the announcement of the 1990 plan, Minister of Science and Technology, Yi Sang-hui said that this plan was developed according to the consensus of the science and technology community for two reasons.

The first reason is that the only way to cope with the international competition which our economy is facing and with the domestic demand for simultaneous achievements of security and growth is to make a breakthrough in science and technology.

The second reason is based on the possible conclusion that even though our country has a weak basic science foundation and an outdated level of conventional high technology, if nationwide public support could be drawn, it might be possible to upgrade South Korea to a world class level in the science and technology areas from the viewpoint of the remarkable progress which South Korea has made in science and technology areas such as computers and electronics.

Let us take a look at the speed of progress in science and technology during the 1980's. First of all, in terms of national budget, our investment in science and technology in 1980 increased from 300 billion won, or 0.9 percent of the GNP, to 3 trillion won, or 2.23 percent of the GNP; the number of total research personnel was 20,000, or 5 in 10,000 people in 1980, and rose to a total of 60,000, or 15 in 10,000 in 1989.

The number of business research institutes rose from 50 in 1980 to an enormous 749 in 1989.

The government confirmed that it plans to invest a total of 38 trillion won by 1996 in the science and technology area and to increase that investment amount up to 5 percent of the GNP by 2000.

The Ministry of Science and Technology's new plan has two objectives: One is a domestic agenda to establish cross-departmental cooperation among the the Ministry of Science and Technology itself and the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Minstry of Communications and the Ministry of National Construction and to establish nationwide joint research institutes; the other is an international agenda to establish a close international joint research system not only with the existing allies such as the United States, Japan, and Europe but also with socialist countries such as the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and the PRC.

This plan also contains a plan to upgrade South Korean science and technology to the level of the OECD by 1993 and to the level of the seven industrialized nations such as the United States, Japan, West Germany, England, Canada, France, and Italy by 2000.

The main agenda of the seven-year plan for development of science and technology which will start from 1990 is as follows.

First, it concerns the information industry.

This plan will develop a semiconductor with a 4-mega D RAM during 1990 under close cooperation of the Ministry of Communications and the Ministry of Trade and Industry and will develop a 16-mega and a 64-mega D RAM during a seven-year period, thus establishing ourselves as the center force of the world semiconductor industry.

In order to achieve this, 24 organizations from industrial, academic, and research institute circles with the Institute of Electronic Communication as its center will participate in this project. The number of annual research personnel will be 800 with a budget of 190 billion won.

Second, it concerns the development of new materials.

This plan will raise the self-sufficiency rate for primary materials from current 20 percent to 80 percent: by 1993, 50 percent of the production of jet engine parts will be furnished domestically and up to 20 percent of the production of state of the art information industry materials such as laser magnetic disks will be domestically furnished. For this purpose, 4 billion won will be invested in 1990 and 100 billion won will be invested during the period between 1990 and 1993.

Third, it concerns precision chemical industry areas.

University and private research institutes, with the Korea Chemistry Research Institute and Korea Institute of Science and Technology as the center, will jointly participate and the government and private sector will invest 109 billion won to expand the current share of precision chemistry of 27 percent to 50 percent.

Fourth, it concerns genetic engineering areas.

The genetic engineering technology, which has already taken a big share with 2 percent of the GNP, will be expanded to the level of 10 percent of the GNP by investing 60 billion won during the period between 1990 and 1996. In order to develop new biological materials such as various disease reagents, preventive medicine, and antibiotic materials, various organizations such as the Center for Genetic Engineering, the National Health Institute, and the Office of Agriculture and Forestry Development, and university and industrial research institutes will make cooperative research efforts.

Fifth, it concerns the development of aeronautic technology.

Between the period from 1990 to 1994, a total of 300 billion won will be invested in this area. These studies will result in the development of airplanes which will be geographically suitable for use in the Korean peninsula and can take off and land over short distances with low noise levels and the development of the Pegasus level man-made satellite rocket which will be used for survey in agriculture and fisheries, the ocean, and the atmosphere, and the development and launch of scientific observation satellites, which will make South Korea one of 10 nations in the world with its own satellites.

Sixth, it concerns the development of nuclear technology.

By the end of the 1990's, it will develop a Korean style nuclear reactor for technological independence of nuclear power plants and with this foundation it will challenge the development of high speed generators and a nuclear fusion generator by 2000.

Seventh, it concerns the mechatronics area.

In order to accelerate productivity improvement in preparation for the era of high wages, it plans to shorten production time and increase labor productivity by connecting computers to the automated manufacturing process and by eliminating human workers in the factory. In order to develop combined production automation (CIM) technology, 1.3 billion won will be invested in 1990 alone and 25 billion won will be invested by 1992.

Buddha's 2,534th Birthday Celebrated by Millions

SK0205052790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0457 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 2 (YONHAP)—South Korea's 20 million Buddhists were in a festive mood Wednesday as they celebrated Buddha's birthday with prayers and services and aired the first radio programs of the Buddhist Broadcasting System.

At Chogye Temple in Seoul, the center of the largest Buddhist order in Korea, services held in drenching rain were attended by some 10,000 monks and believers from 10 a.m., when a bell was tolled 33 times to awaken people to the eternal truth of Buddha's message.

Similar services were held at the nation's 8,800-odd temples, but the day's celebrations were low key compared with an open air service on Seoul's Yoido Plaza on April 28 and a parade through downtown streets in the evening of that day.

Buddhists have been celebrating the 2,534th birthday of Buddha since March 27, holding prayer meetings, academic conferences and charity activities and hanging lotus-shaped lanterns in dark alleys and poor neighborhoods.

The theme of this year's celebrations in Korea is unification of the divided nation and young Buddhists set out on cross-country "reunification marches" from Pusan and Kwangju on April 22 and April 25, respectively.

The walkers will hold a prayer meeting when they arrive at Ymjingak Pavilion just South of the Demilitarized Zone dividing South and North Korea on Sunday.

Buddhist Radio Station To Air Programs From 1 May

SK2804023490 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 Apr 90 p 7

[Text] The Buddhist Broadcasting System (BBS), a religious radio broadcaster in Seoul, will start to air its programs May 1 in coincidence with the Buddha's 2534th birthday. BBS will cover Seoul and some parts of the Kyonggi area on the FM 101.9 MHz frequency with 5kw output power via Namsan Tower's antenna, using the call sign HLSG.

The broadcaster compiles its programs into the categories of music, news and worship for daily production, said an official of BBS.

The music programs, according to him, are centered on Zenist music and traditional tunes to breathe fresh air into Western music-dominated Korean music communities. BBS was set up with the funds raised by a total of 18 Buddhist orders after a two-year-long pan-sectarian drive.

Equipment Smashed at New Station

SK0205073390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0715 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 2 (YONHAP)—Intruders smashed equipment at the Buddhist Broadcasting System Wednesday but the radio station, which has only been on the air for one day, remained in operation.

Two men in their 20s entered the station's building in Seoul at 3:30 A.M. and fled after destroying broadcasting equipment valued at some 120 million won (170,000 U.S. dollars).

According to guard Yun Kwon-chol, 48, they entered the building through a back door and asked him for permission to go up to the news department on the 16th floor, saying that they had something to do in connection with preparations for a ceremony later in the day to mark Buddha's birthday. Because the elevator stopped at the 3rd floor, where the auditorium is located, instead of the 16th, Yun followed them.

When he found them, the jean-clad men threatened to kill him if he shouted. After binding Yun hand and foot with a mike cord, they destroyed recording and broadcasting equipment at random.

Yun said the offenders left at 3:50 after threatening him again, saying he would be killed if he reported them to the authorities.

Police suspect it was a grudge attack and may have been religiously motivated. The Buddhist Broadcasting System received a letter accusing it of being "Satanic" earlier in the year.

Burma

Khun Sa Aide Discusses U.S. Indictment, Role

BK0205015190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 May 90 p 4

[Text] Opium warlord Khun Sa has proposed a permanent ceasefire and cooperation with his rivals, the United Wa State Army (UWSA), in a struggle against the Burmese Government. He also offered to help the Wa group. In a hand-written letter, dated April 21, to UWSA leader Chao Yi Lai, Khun Sa said the fighting between the two factions which began on February 19 and lasted until April 3 unnecessarily caused loss of life and property to both sides and only benefited others.

Meanwhile, Khun Sa's spokesman Col [Colonel] Khuansai Chaiyen disclosed that he was informed that UWSA military leader Pao Ying Ai had travelled to Rangoon to meet either Maj Gen [Major General] Khin Nyunt or Brig Gen [Brigadier General] Tin U, apparently seeking financial support from the Burmese Government to carry on the fighting against Khun Sa. Col Khuansai claimed Khun Sa's Muang Tai Army [MTA] suffered some 200 casualties while more than 400 Wa troops were killed in the 44 days of fighting.

He interpreted last month's indictment of Khun Sa by a US court on 10 drug trafficking counts as an attempt by the US Government to interfere in Burma's internal affairs. He claimed the Rangoon Government and all minority groups in Burma except the MTA were now following the US policy on drugs and if his leader feared the indictment and decided to cooperate with the Burmese Government he would fall into America's trap. The top aide to Khun Sa claimed that the US wanted to play a more significant role in Burma's affairs but it could not do so because of its "wrong" decision to support Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi while the Burmese military still retained strong power. The only chance left for the US to push itself into Burmese affairs was to use the narcotics problem to press the Burmese Government and Khun Sa, he said.

Col Khuansai said cooperation among the three superpowers—the US, China and the Soviet Union—would be the only way to suppress drug trafficking. Financial aid to Burma alone could not solve the problem. He ruled out speculation that US forces might try to seize Khun Sa in a similar operation to their capture of Panamanian strongman Gen [General] Manuel Noriega. He said the threat was "only psychological warfare" but the announcement of Khun Sa's indictment had affected the image of the Shan State and the opium warlord himself. Col Khuansai said all US drug enforcement officials and their families in Thailand need not fear possible attacks by Khun Sa's men because the use of violence could not solve their "differences of opinion".

Ceremony Held To Explain Drug Control Efforts

BK0105102990 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Excerpts] A ceremony sponsored by the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, where narcotic drugs seized by the authorities were destroyed, was held at the Aung Thabye Police Hall on Kyaikwaing Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township at 0800 today.

Present were Lieutenant General Phone Myint, minister of home and religious affairs and information and culture; Lt. Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw, minister of cooperatives and construction; Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC]; Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt, commander of Yangon [Rangoon] Military Command; Brigadier General Win Myint, commander of the 11th Light Infantry Division; Brig. Gen. Tin Hla, commander of the 22d Light Infantry Division; Colonel Myint Lwin, provost marshal; Col. (?San Maung), commander of the No. 1 Military Region; U Kyaw Aye, director general of the SLORC Office; U Ko, director general of the Cabinet Office; U Ohn Kyaw, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department; high ranking departmental officials; Col. Thura Pe Aung, director general of the People's Police Force and secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control; members of that central committee; foreign ambassadors, charges d'affaires, military attaches, and counselors; resident representatives of the UN Development Program, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the World Health Organization; representatives of the UNICEF, the UN Fund for Drug Abuse Control, and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency; U Kyaw Sann, head of the SLORC Information Committee; members of that committee; local and foreign journalists headed by U Soe Nyunt, managing director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise; visiting CBS correspondents from the United States; (Peter Charlesworth), Bangkok-based photojournalist for TIME; and responsible police personnel. [passage omitted]

Police Colonel Ngwe Soe Tun, director of narcotics and joint secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, explained the efforts made by Myanmar [Burma] to control narcotics and about the ceremony to destroy narcotic drugs seized by authorities. [passage omitted] He said: We have come to understand that some countries have been blacking out the news of the efforts being made by Myanmar to control drugs. For instance, over $418 million worth of drugs were destroyed by fire here in February, and journalists and diplomats were also present on the occasion. Not only did they check that the drugs being destroyed were heroin, they also put the event on record with photographs and video films. However, we have come to understand that drug control agencies in some countries have been saying things quite contrary to the truth.

There have also been false allegations that Myanmar has done nothing to control narcotic drugs and that it has an understanding with insurgents to cultivate and produce opium. Col. Ngwe Soe Tun said he categorically denied these allegations. [passage omitted] He said, using great manpower, Myanmar has launched the "Me-Lone," "Hnin Pan," "Pauk Pan," "Taung-hteik Pan," "Hemar-u," "Nga-ye Pan," and other military operations between 1975 and 1988 to destroy poppy plantations. As a result, more than 130,000 acres of poppy plantations were destroyed. Since the 1985-86 opium growing season, Operation "Taung Yan Shin" was launched to destroy poppy plantations by aerial spraying. As of 1987-88, over 70,000 acres of poppy have been destroyed this way. Hence, over 200,000 acres of poppy were destroyed both by using manpower as well as aerial spraying. This helped prevent the production of over 910 tons of opium or 91 tons of heroin. [passage omitted]

Following the events of 1988, the Defense Services have been occupied with fulfilling the four major tasks without fail. Because of this, they have not been able to launch major Operations "Nga-ye Pan," "Taung Yan Shin," and "Moe Hein" to destroy poppy plantations and opium refineries belonging to insurgents at the border areas. However, every time the opportunity arises, we launch local operations to destroy the plantations and refineries. A total of over 200 acres of poppy and over 300,000 marijuana plants were destroyed in 1988-89. These reports have officially been made public. [passage omitted]

Since early 1989, project "Ye Min Aung" has been launched to effectively stop the trafficking of narcotic drugs. Although there were only five Special Anti-Narcotic Task Forces before, we now have 24 task forces which cooperate with the local people, the army, and the regional police. Through projects "Ye Min Aung Phase I" and "Ye Min Aung Phase IV," over 170 kilograms of heroin, over 400 kg of opium, over 50 kg of marijuana, and 2,300 liters of phensedyl [opiate and cough syrup] were seized.

State and divisional people's police forces have also been cracking down on drugs. Between 18 September 1988 and 23 April 1990, they seized over 97 kg of heroin, over 700 kg of opium, over 10,000 of marijuana and, over 2,600 liters of phensedyl [all figures as heard]. [passage omitted] Col. Ngwe Soe Tun said we destroyed narcotic drugs by fire in this very place on 13 February. The quantity and value of drugs that were destroyed were 209.066 kg of heroin, 14.832 kg of opium resin, 2.391 kg of liquid opium, and 54.4 kg of phensedyl. The total value of the narcotics destroyed was U.S.$418,020,145. [passage omitted]

In this ceremony, today, we will be destroying 251.402 kg heroin, 10.389 kg of opium resin, 16.70 kg of liquid opium, 826.839 kg of marijuana, and 5,292.50 liters of over 40,000 phensedyl bottles. The total value of narcotic drugs to be destroyed is $503,916,195. The calculations are based on the street price in the United States—that is, one kg of heroin is worth U.S.$1 million. [passage omitted]

Khin Nyunt Discusses Tasks, Foreign Interference

BK3004142590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], in the company of Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of Yangon [Rangoon] Division of SLORC and commander of Yangon Military Command; Colonel Ko Lay, mayor of Yangon and chairman of Yangon City Development Committee; Colonel Myint Lwin, provost marshal; Colonel Pya Maung, commander of No. 1 Military Region; Colonel Sein Htwa, Tactical Operations commander; Colonel Thura Pe Aung, commander of the People's Police Force; responsible officials of the SLORC; and directors general, managing directors, and responsible officials of departments and work groups concerned, arrived in Hlaing Thaya by motorcade at 0700 today. [passage omitted]

Next, the secretary-1 and his party arrived in Tantabin. The secretary-1 and his party later had a meeting with the township and ward level SLORC's and departmental personnel at the Tantabin High School building. Speaking on the occasion, Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt said that since the SLORC assumed the responsibilities of the state, it had been establishing new towns around Yangon city while undertaking development work at underdeveloped townships with poor road networks within Yangon Division. In order to develop the township, 8.2 million kyat have been spent to construct Hlaing Thaya-Tantabin road, and this has reduced the travel time to and from downtown Yangon. Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt said we are doing everything possible with might and main while we are in charge.

It has been more than a year now that the SLORC has been carrying out the four major tasks to develop areas throughout the country. So far, three of the four major tasks have been accomplished. Preparations have already been made to perform the final task of holding multiparty democratic elections on 27 May. Political campaigning has been permitted three months before the elections. With the exception of speeches that advocate the disintegration of the Defense Forces, that debase the SLORC, or that agitate disturbances, freedom of speech has been permitted. Since the prevalence of law and order is vital, it is essential for the people to abide by existing laws. Legal action will be taken against those who break the law. This, however, cannot be construed as taking action against political organizations and their members but only against law breakers. Irresponsible democratic rights cannot be permitted. We have already learned from the 1988 crisis. The Defense Services had unavoidably taken over the country then to prevent it from disintegrating under the influences of left- and right-wing forces and local and foreign elements.

There is already a tradition of the Defense Services assuming the responsibilities of the state any time unusual circumstances emerge in the state. The Defense Services will always be united. We believe the strength of the country lies only within it. We of the Defense Services will lay down our lives to prevent the disintegration of the Union, to safeguard national unity, and to perpetuate sovereignty. The Defense Services will always be there regardless of who the government is. The country will be ruined if the Defense Services break up. Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt said we are trying to achieve all-around development in the shortest time possible while we are in charge, only by considering the interests of the people and the country. [passage omitted]

The SLORC has not assumed the responsibilities of the state because it craves power. We have no political party or organization behind us. The work we do should be studied objectively. Overseas broadcasting stations and foreign publications have been spreading false news about the work done by the state to control narcotic drugs. The efforts to control narcotic drugs have been going on from the time of the ancient Myanmar [Burmese] kings until now. Defense Services personnel, members of the People's Police Force, and public service personnel have lost lives and limbs in the fight against narcotic drugs in addition to the large amount of funds being spent by the state. Only recently, the state presented worthy titles and awards to those who had risked their well-being for the country. Among them were people who had taken all the risks in the efforts to control narcotic drugs. We do not expect or hope for any assistance from any country in combatting the threat of drugs. The work is being done as a national task with available resources.

The SLORC has been systematically relocating and settling people who live in monasteries, factories, and mills and those homeless civilians and service personnel in the new towns so these people will have their own homes. Roads and bridges as well as transport vehicles needed to facilitate communications with the new towns are being constructed or made available together with hospitals, schools, relief shops, markets, electrical power, water supply, and [words indistinct]. There are some people who wish to disrupt the resettlement program at the new towns. Some people have contacts overseas with the intention of affecting the independence and sovereignty of the country as well as to create a false impression of the government among the people. The Defense Services will never allow any interference by a foreign country. We have lived more than 100 years under imperialism and have learned our lessons.

There are traitors and those who yearn to be slaves in our country. Detainees Daw Myint Myint Khin, Tharawaddy San San Nwe, Ko Myint Swe, and Ko Aung Aung, were released only recently. Two major Western embassies here sent their local staff to those released, made false accusations, and asked several questions. Those detainees said they were not tortured and were allowed to live peacefully. We understand those posing the questions went away dissatisfied with the answers they received. Those staff workers are people who yearn to be slaves, and if there are many of them, the future is bad for the country. It is essential for the people to join hands with the Defense Services to prevent the disintegration of the country, to safeguard national unity, and to perpetuate the sovereignty of the nation.

Next, Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt spoke about the Chaungdan-Lamudan road construction. [passage omitted]

On Tantabin, Khin Nyunt said insurgency has affected Tantabin township and hence development was slow. Today, since there are opportunities to carry out development work, departmental officials should work to the best of their abilities. If the local populace works in harmony, success can be achieved within a short time.

Since preparations have already been made to accomplish the final task of the SLORC—to hold multiparty democratic general elections—on 27 May 1990, the elections are just around the corner. The people can vote freely for the party or organization of their choice. It is of utmost importance for the people to vote for the candidates who can work in the interests of the people and the nation. Hence, it is essential for the people to elect a strong government that would work for the three causes—to prevent the disintegration of the country, to safeguard national unity, and to perpetuate the sovereignty of the nation. [passage omitted]

Later, the secretary-1 had a meeting with the local people at the township SLORC office. At the meeting, U Maung Kyaing, an 80-year-old man, explained about Tantabin and its origins. [passage omitted] Continuing, U Maung Kyaing said after World War II, British imperialists returned to the country. At that time Inspector Jew Maung Galay, a follower of the British, was in charge of the town. Because of the oppression by the imperialists, an anti-imperialist movement started with the town people as well as the peasants in the nearby areas marching around the town on 18 May 1946. They chanted: Down with Jew Maung Galay!Down with the British Government!Give Rights to the Peasants Immediately! Give Us Independence Now! The British authorities resorted to violence and shot the demonstrators. Peasants U San Aye, U Maung Sein, and U Pein were killed. The imperialist propaganda machinery later spread false news that the British Government had to shoot to quell the rice riots in Tantabin. The fact is that the incident took place to demand peasants' rights and independence. [passage omitted]

The secretary-1 and his party left Tantabin in the afternoon and arrived at the Hlaing Thaya township SLORC office. Later, the secretary had a meeting with New Paunggyi ward SLORC members of Hlaing Thaya township. Speaking on the occasion, Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt explained in detail politics, the economy, and the situation of the work to develop the border regions and the urban and rural areas. [passage omitted] He said we were exploited for more than 100 years under the imperialists. Today, our country is undergoing agitation and interference by foreign countries as well as being plagued by the work of those who yearn to be slaves and traitors and who, as the saying goes, pine for the aunt rather than for the real mother. These people are trying to revive neocolonialism in Myanmar [Burma].

The multiparty democratic general elections are about to be held on 27 May, and the people have the choice of voting freely for the party of their choice. It is vital that the people elect those who love the country and the people and who can truly lead the country. The secretary-1 and his party left Hlaing Thaya at 1445.

Leading Catholics Arrested in Property Seizures

BK2504014190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Apr 90 p 2

[Text] Burma's military rulers have arrested seven leading Catholics for resisting the seizure of church property in Rangoon, Western diplomats in the city said yesterday. The seizure was part of the government's urban renewal scheme, which has seen hundreds of thousands of people relocated from Burmese cities in the past year, said the diplomats, contacted in Rangoon by the ASSOCIATED PRESS. They spoke on condition of anonymity.

The seven Catholics arrested on April 19 were members of the board of management of the Catholics church in Burma, but none was a priest, the diplomats said. They were unable to name the seven and had no details of any charges brought against them. They said it appeared, however, that the seven were arrested for resisting an attempt by authorities to seize part of the compound of a church-owned building in central Rangoon. The government has sequestered property all over the capital recently, they said.

Since early 1989, armed troops have moved as many as half a million people from inner city areas to new satellite towns, many of which lack even the most rudimentary utilities, diplomats say. The relocations are aimed partly at breaking up pockets of dissent, they say. The military government seized power in 1988 by crushing a largely urban-based uprising for democracy. Troops killed several thousand people in suppressing dissent that year. An increasing number of reports were filtering through from the new settlements telling of malaria epidemics and severe malnutrition, one diplomat said. "We are still trying to get more information, but there are reports that people are dying. We have reports from various sites. Most appear to be old people and children," he said. Details were scanty as the army kept tight control on information, he added. "People are being moved out of Rangoon right now. They are told a target date to dismantle their houses and then they are taken away by army truck, usually after curfew," he said. There had been some resistance, mostly in the form of non-violent appeals, but most people were too frightened to resist, another envoy said. "They don't have any arms. There is nothing they can do," he added.

The US Government has called the relocations an infringement of civil liberties. Pe Thein, Burma's Health and Education Minister, said on a visit to Thailand in March that most of those being moved were squatters and the relocations were for "sanitary" reasons. Diplomats dispute this. "They range from squatters to people with 90-year leases," one said. Although the government has promised to hold the country's first democratic elections in 30 years next month, it has detained thousands of political dissidents and barred the most popular opposition figures from the polls.

'Front' Issues Labor Day, Election Warning

BK0205101290 Delhi External Service in Burmese 1130 GMT 1 May 90

[From the "Current Burmese Affairs" Program]

[Text] An appeal to the blue- and white-collar workers of Myanmar [Burma] by the Myanmar Democratic Guerrilla Front [Myanmar-PYI Democratic Pyauk-ja Tat-u] on 1 May 1990.

Esteemed workers at mills, factories, offices, and private firms: We send you our good wishes on this 1990 Labor Day hoping you are all prosperous and healthy, both in mind and body.

Dear Myanmar [Burmese] workers, you are indeed worthy of being mentioned on this Labor Day—an occasion annually celebrated on 1 May in honor of the working masses of the world who uphold justice and dare to act against any wrongdoing.

In our political history, it was the workers who fought at the forefront of the struggle against British imperialism and Japanese fascism. They staged the oilfield workers strike, the 1975 Sinmalaik dockyard strike to revolt against the evil Ma-Sa-La [Burma Socialist Program Party] system, and the strike at the Thamaing textile mill. They also took part in the many uprisings quelled by the military as well as in the recent four eight's [8 August 1988] uprising together with the other people and opened a new chapter in the democratic struggle. Why?

In the 26 years that the Ma-Sa-La had ruled, the workers and their families barely lived above death by starvation. There was no leisure or happiness, and life was a full-time fight for survival. Spare time merely meant doing extra work to supplement income, and it meant worrying. Public service personnel then became corrupt because they did not earn enough. There was also no time to get interested in politics, because people were occupied with where their next meal was coming from. People became divorced from politics, and this enabled the ruling Ma-Sa-La to do whatever it pleased.

What hurts most is that wives and daughters of some workers were forced to turn to prostitution to solve the subsistence problem of the family. Children gave up schooling and helped the parents in whatever way they could in the fight for survival.

Today, under the Nyein-Pi [derogatory term for State Law and Order Restoration Council], although salaries were increased for the workers—a superficial gesture that is merely intended to win praise—commodity prices have soared so high that things are even more difficult now. Unforgettable also are the early days of the Nyein-Pi military administration when a proud race like the Myanmar had to swallow their pride and line up for rice porridge at the distribution sites. Similarly, the impoverished life of the peasantry, an ally of the working class, has not been any better. People suffer more with time as the military prolongs its administration. Hence, the workers, the peasantry, and the other classes of people have come to bitterly hate this government of the military dictators.

Resorting to all the dirty tricks in the book, they are trying to make a government out of the National Unity Party [formerly the Burma Socialist Program Party] through the elections. If that party—a military government in disguise—were to win again this time and the country sink under its administration, it would even be worse than when we were enslaved. We will no longer be able to perform like, or even be, humans again. This is a warning for Labor Day.

[Signed] The Burma Democratic Guerrilla Front.

[The Delhi announcer adds: "The All Burma Students' Democratic Front, ABSDF, and the Alliance for Democratic Solidarity, ADS, also issued similar Labor Day statements."]

Trade Minister Leaves for CSFR, SFRY

BK0105150090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] At the invitation of the governments of Czechoslovakia and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade, headed a seven-member Myanmar [Burmese] delegation that left this afternoon by air to discuss bilateral economic cooperation matters. The delegation was seen off at the airport by State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] members Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, minister for energy and mines; Lieutenant General Aung Ye Kyaw, minister for construction and cooperatives; Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of SLORC; Maj. Gen. Tin U, secretary-2 of SLORC; Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt, commander of Yangon [Rangoon] military command, and senior military officers from the Ministry of Defense; U Ko, director general of the office of the government, and departmental heads from the ministries concerned; Czechoslovak Ambassador Mr. Jaroslav Richter; Yugoslav Ambassador Mr. Svetozar Jovicevic; and responsible personnel.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Turkish Foreign Minister Arrives 2 May

BK0205103690 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0943 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 2 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Turkey plans to step up bilateral economic and trade relations with Malaysia in its efforts to enhance cooperation between the two countries. The Turkish Government also hopes to improve political and cultural relations with Malaysia, its foreign affairs minister, Prof. Dr. Ali Bozer said Wednesday [2 May]. He said on his arrival at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport here that his government wished to see a balance in trade between the two countries. The trade balance was at present in Malaysia's favour.

Prof. Dr. Ali is heading a delegation of government officials and Turkish Chamber of Commerce representatives on a two-day visit to Malaysia. He said Turkey is interested in joint-venture projects and direct investments in Malaysia, especially in the wood furniture industry.

He added that a larger delegation from the Chamber of Commerce would visit Malaysia in August to discuss greater cooperation in trade and industry. He believed that the Malaysian national car, Proton Saga, would find a market in Turkey if the automobile producer contacted the Turkish business community.

He will call on Foreign Affairs Minister Abu Hassan Omar Wednesday and Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba Thursday.

Singapore

'Goddess of Democracy' Sails Into Singapore

BK0205035090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0338 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Singapore, May 2 (AFP)—The dissident radio ship, Goddess of Democracy, sailed into Singapore early Wednesday [2 May] morning, according to the wife of the project organiser. The ship arrived here at 0300 hours (1900 GMT) and is now anchored in the eastern anchorage, which is outside the port limit, Mrs. Christophe Nick said.

Her husband is a journalist for the French magazine ACTUEL and an organiser of the "Boat for China" project which is sponsored by 19 civilian newspapers and by several press groups in various countries.

Mrs. Nick said that the radio ship was scheduled to sail for Taiwan late Wednesday night or early Thursday morning after taking on supplies and eight foreign journalists who have been in Singapore more than a week.

She said that a meeting with the vice-captain on shore would likely take place later Wednesday.

The 1,200-tonne Goddess of Democracy, which is backed by the Paris-based Chinese dissident group, the Federation for a Democratic China, has a crew of 10 French nationals and one Taiwan journalist on board. Its crew plans to broadcast music, news and pro-democracy reports to communist China while anchored off Taiwan.

The mission is timed to mark the first anniversary of the crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing last June. China has said that any support or help given to the radio ship would be considered an interference in its internal affairs.

Alleged PRC Harassment Reported

BK0205093090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0916 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Singapore, May 2 (AFP)—The dissident radio ship, Goddess of Democracy, was harassed by Chinese commercial vessels as it neared Singapore, the project organiser said here Wednesday. Christophe Nick, organiser of the "Boat for China" project, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in a telephone interview that the Goddess of Democracy was harassed Tuesday by Chinese cargo ships in the Straits of Malacca and on the approaches to Singapore.

"The Chinese vessels did not show respect for international navigation safety rules," he said. "They were not really aggressive but they sailed towards and very near to the radio ship." "The incidents were similar to those the ship had faced when it was in the Mediterranean sea," Mr. Nick said. Mr. Nick, a journalist for the French magazine ACTUEL, said the actions by the Chinese vessels could be construed as "a warning to us".

The 1,200-tonne Goddess of Democracy sailed into Singapore waters at 0300 hours (1900 GMT) Wednesday and was anchored in waters outside port limits.

Mr. Nick said he had just come from the ship, which did not sustain any damage, and that the 10-member French crew and one Taiwan journalist on board were safe and well. He did not disclose when the ship would sail for Taiwan, where it is expected to lie off the coast, broadcasting music, news and pro-democracy reports to China.

He said the vessel's departure depended on the speedy delivery of supplies. He said he hoped it could sail late Wednesday or early Thursday with the eight foreign journalists who have been in Singapore more than a week waiting to join the ship.

The mission is timed to mark the first anniversary of the crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing last June. China has issued a warning that support or help given to the ship would be considered interference in its internal affairs.

The Goddess of Democracy is backed by the Paris-based Chinese dissident group, the Federation for Democratic China. The "Boat for China" project is sponsored by 19 newspapers and several press groups in various countries.

Cambodia

VODK Comments on Continued SRV Presence

BK0105071190 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Station commentary: "As Long as Vietnamese Aggressor Troops and Forces of All Categories Remain in Cambodian Territory, Cambodian People Cannot Lay Down Their Weapons and Stop Fighting"]

[Text] Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia, said on 19 April [date as heard] that the Cambodian people cannot lay down their arms so long as Vietnamese troops are still present on Cambodian soil. This statement of the president of Cambodia constitutes the common opinion of our entire Cambodian nation and people. The Cambodian people and national resistance forces have been compelled to take up arms to fight the Vietnamese aggressors for the sake of peace, national independence, and territorial integrity. Over 11 years have elapsed now, but the Hanoi authorities still do not want to release Cambodia. They have continued to occupy Cambodia with their over 100,000 troops. In addition, they have approximately 50,000 Vietnamese administrators implanted in the puppet administrative networks at all levels, from top to bottom, and over one million Vietnamese immigrants helping the Vietnamese aggressor troops in occupying and controlling Cambodia.

The UN General Assembly has, for the past 11 years, demanded that Vietnam withdraw all its troops from Cambodia, but the Hanoi authorities refuse to withdraw. In the talks to settle the Cambodian problem held successively in Jakarta and Paris, the Hanoi authorities vehemently rejected UN supervision on the withdrawal of their aggressor troops from Cambodia. The successive proposals made by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk of the Cambodian national government and by the international community demanding the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, particularly the 16-point statement of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council issued in January 1990, have all been rejected by the Hanoi authorities.

In such a situation when Vietnam obstinately refuses to settle the Cambodian problem comprehensively through political means and to withdraw its aggressor forces from Cambodia, how can the Cambodian people lay down their weapons and stop fighting? Definitely, laying down our arms in such a situation is tantamount to allowing Vietnam to occupy and annex present-day Cambodia as it did to our Kampuchea Kraom in the past.

The Cambodian people who have been suffering miserably for the past 11 years want peace more than anyone else, but they cannot accept the kind of peace in which they will not enjoy 100 percent independence, the right to self-determination, and territorial integrity. They cannot accept the kind of peace in which Cambodia will lose its national identity, race, and territory. The Cambodian people love their nation, race, and land as do all other nations and people in the world. They have the right and duty to defend their nation, territory, and race as do all other nations and people. Therefore, as Cambodian President Samdech Norodom Sihanouk said, so long as the Vietnamese aggressor troops remain in Cambodia, the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces will jointly carry on their fight until Vietnam agrees to withdraw all its aggressor forces from Cambodia under the effective supervision of the United Nations and the four Cambodian groups and agrees to settle the Cambodian problem comprehensively through political means in order to restore the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and right to self-determination for the Cambodian people.

The Cambodian people hope the international community will continue pressuring the Vietnamese aggressors politically, diplomatically, and economically so, together with the Cambodian people's struggle on the battlefield, Vietnam will be compelled to accept such a solution.

National Bank of Cambodia Devalues Riel

BK0105053290 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0403 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 1—The National Bank of Cambodia has devalued the riel (Cambodia currency) to 360 riels for one U.S. dollar from 218 riels fixed in November last year.

According to a communique on the official exchange rate announced recently by the National Bank, one pound sterling is now equivalent to 590 riels; one French franc to 62.61 riels; one Swiss franc to 236.84 riels; one Deutsche mark to 210.53 riels; one Hong Kong dollar to 46.04 riels; one Canadian dollar to 305.08 riels; one Australian dollar to 268.66 riels; 100 yen of Japan to 231 riels; one Singapore dollar to 190.48 riels; and one Thai baht to 13.85 riels.

In mid-March this year, the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia [words indistinct]-law decree on the circulation of new 100-riel bank-notes.

Indonesia

Alatas To Announce Date of Beijing Visit 'Later'

BK0205103290 Jakarta ANTARA in English
0958 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Jakarta, May 02 (OANA/ANTARA)—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas firmly stated here that his planned visit to Beijing to continue talks of normalization of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China is just a matter of time, and there is no other reason for the visit to to be cancelled.

"So, it's just a matter of time and I am still trying to find for the right time for the visit," he told newsmen before attending a limited cabinet session chaired by President Suharto at Bina Graha Presidential Office here.

According to Alatas he is still looking for the right time because he has very tight schedules up to next June.

"I have tight schedules," he said seriously. The minister showed a time table containing a list of events he has to attend in the near future, including the visits of a number of state guests to Indonesia.

Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, the president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the Zimbabwean president and the Venezuelan president are expected to visit Indonesia in the next few coming days.

In addition, the minister also cited the South-South summit scheduled for June 1 to 3 in Kuala Lumpur, as well as a number of activities in June, including his planned trips to Washington, Algeria, and to attend a meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO).

Commenting a suggestion that he might visit Beijing in July seeing his tight programs during May and June, Minister Alatas just said, "Don't speculate. I am seriously seeking a right time for such a visit. So, just wait and see. I will announce it later."

Minister Alatas is scheduled to pay a trip to Beijing to hold further discussions with his Chinese counterpart on the process of normalization of diplomatic relationsi beoween Indonesia and the People's Republic of China. The visit would also constitute a follow up of a recent trip to Beijing by a group of Indonesian ranking officials.

Alatas Pledges Not To Reject SRV Boat People

BK0205105090 Jakarta ANTARA in English
0958 GMT 2 May 90

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Jakarta, May 02 (OANA/ANTARA)—Indonesia here Wednesday [2 May] emphasized [words indistinct] recently.

"We will always uphold the Geneva Convention and will be 'loyal' to it as well. We never have any intention to chase them away. "Never", Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said here Wednesday prior to the limited cabinet session on economy, finance and industry. He made the statement in response to international concern over the possibility of Indonesia changing its attitude towards Vietnamese refugees.

However, Minister Alatas went on, Indonesia will be consistent in its principle only when the final destination countries of the refugees also fulfill all their obligations.

"We will remain loyal to our commitment as a first asylum country," he added. The Geneva Convention, according to Minister Alatas, stated among others that the final destination countries must accept the Vietnamese "boat people" after a selection process to determine who are or who are not of a refugee status.

The minister also said that the Indonesian island of Galang where about 11,000 Vietnamse refugees are temporarily accomodated has become very crowded. Actually the island can only shelter 5,000 of them.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) already knew about the situation, he said adding that the organization will try to help Indonesia to find a way out of the problem.

Australia has also stated its willingness to help Indonesia and promised additional aid to upgrade the Galang refugees center, he said.

IGGI Chairman Interviewed on Economy

BK0105060990 Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 21 Apr 90 pp 91, 92

["Excerpts" of interview with Jan Pronk, Netherlands minister of cooperation and development and chairman of the Intergovernmental Group on Indonesia, by TEMPO correspondent Mohamed Kholid during Pronk's tour of rural Indonesia—date not given]

[Text] [Kholid] You said Indonesia must reduce its debts and then reduce its DSR [debt service ratio], while in fact, the country needs more funds to keep the momentum of development

[Pronk] It all depends on the Indonesian Government, which may prefer rapid economic development, which also means more debts. You cannot say that you want to continue growth without paying attention to the growing debts. This is not a wise policy. However, I have the impression that your government has economic experts capable of selecting the best and balanced priorities, which for the 1990's consist of increasing job opportunities, lowering the DSR, and having economic growth as the third priority. Not the other way around.

Indeed, the problem lies in selecting priorities. Do you prefer capital-intensive or labor-intensive investments? Do you remember the Netherlands-financed project which installed a telephone cable network between Yogyakarta and Cilacap, which would in turn improve the Jakarta-Surabaya telephone link? It took a lot of manpower to dig and install the cable because it was done manually. There were a lot of jobs available for the people, during the two-year installation period. This project did not require much financing, only a great deal of manpower. In the long-term, this project will increase productivity because it will increase the capacity of telephone lines as much as 200 times.

Indeed, there must be investments with sophisticated technology and large capital, but that is not the correct policy. The Indonesian Government should choose labor-intensive investments financed more by local investors. This means putting a brake on the usage of funds derived from foreign loans. Countries seeking mere economic growth with development projects financed by overseas loans with high interest rates and short periods of repayment are now faced with serious problems. There are numerous examples of this from African and Latin American countries. Therefore, Indonesia must reduce its DSR, which not stands at more than 35 percent.

[Kholid] But many economists say that good and efficient investments are not made through labor-intensive investment...

[Pronk] I disagree with such a view because people forget that debts are a burden which have to be paid later. This line of thinking is based on the assumption that productivity is increased because of the capital-intensive investment.

Efficiency is not a neutral concept. It is a tool to measure productivity for the sake of achieving the objectives of development. The ultimate objective of development is not growth itself, but an improvement of the people's standard of living, which is directly manifested in the increase of job opportunities.

[Kholid] To reduce the DSR, we must, among other things, boost our exports. Do you think we can penetrate the currently competitive export market through labor-intensive investments?

[Pronk] Compared with other ASEAN countries, Indonesia has proven it is able to compete in the international market. The exports per se should not be the main goal. If your country tries to increase its exports with a view toward servicing only debts, a vicious circle will emerge.

[Kholid] Yes, but Indonesia has pleaded for a rescheduling of its servicing of debts?

[Pronk] That is right. I only wanted to say that in my opinion, the Indonesian Government is now pursuing the correct policy. However, do not let the DSR go higher; it must instead be lowered. Do not take the problem of DSR for granted. Many countries have faced bankruptcy due to their huge DSR burden. In short, be careful with this problem. The current economic situation can still be tackled, but you had better lower the DSR.

The way to do this is through a change of attitude. Do not set targets in the form of maximam economic growth. Indonesia must be able to change the structure of development loans and learn to say "no" to such loans, especially if they demand high interest.

[Kholid] What is the danger for Indonesia, known for its integrity in debt servicing, if its DSR surpasses 35 percent?

[Pronk] Well, if for instance the DSR reaches 40 percent, Indonesia may lose its self-confidence in formulating its long-term development program. This is especially true if funds must be given to other countries which are facing more serious economic problems, such as those in Africa and Eastern Europe. As a consortium, the IGGI [Intergovernmental Group on Indonesia] has thus far been fairly successful, but do not depend too much on the IGGI.

[Kholid] Has the IGGI, therefore, played a smaller role?

[Pronk] Not really. The IGGI will continue to extend its assistance, but do not expect loans with high interest. Indonesia will no longer need such loans and has thus far proved that it is capable of implementing development programs and adapting to the changing situation. It can be said that Indonesia has reached the take-off stage. It has managed to boost its revenues from domestic sources through, among other things, the new taxation system. This trend must continue.

[Kholid] Therefore, in your opinion, is economic expansion the main objective of economic development?

[Pronk] Economic expansion is not the main objective of economic development because in the long run, as I said earlier, we must answer this question: For whom do we implement economic development? We do it for better housing, more job opportunities, and a better quality of education for the people. Development programs are for the benefit of the people, not for the wealthy or multinational companies which have already amassed vast profits. This is something which cannot be bargained.

[Kholid] Your words carry a more political, rather than economic, message.

[Pronk] It was indeed a political, not economic, statement. In any country, the political stance has a higher priority.

[Kholid] Many people believe that the IGGI is an economic consortium involved in extending loans, and not a political forum.

[Pronk] People must not forget that the establishment of the IGGI 23 years ago was a political move. The political situation in Indonesia at that time underwent a sudden change, and the new government in Indonesia, unlike the previous government, began to receive financial assistance. When the Netherlands was asked to assume the IGGI chairmanship, it was a political move. When the Netherlands agreed to accept the post, it was also a political move.

Economics and politics are closely related. There is no neutral economic policy because political targets are the main objectives in development. My targets are to increase job opportunities, reduce poverty, and so on. I believe that those making decisions on economic matters in Indonesia also have similar targets.

[Kholid] What do you think of the economic deregulation policy being pursued by the Indonesian Government since 1986?

[Pronk] Related to the restructuring process, the policy is admirable. However, let me remind you that the policy should not be seen as a move to give more power to the big capitalists.

Laos

PASASON Editorial Marks 104th May Day

BK0205062590 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 1 May 90

[PASASON 1 May editorial: "1 May Spirit Remains in the Cause of the Lao Working Class and Laboring People Forever"]

[Text] Today, 1 May 1990, marks the 104th anniversary of the day of the working class and laboring people throughout the world, who struggled against the imperialists for peace, democracy, and social progress. The Lao working class and multiethnic laboring people are proud and pleased to join the working class and laboring people throughout the world to celebrate, amid an atmosphere of renovation, this significant day.

On 1 May 1886, that is 104 years ago, some 180,000 workers in Chicago in the United States unitedly rose up and fought to demand higher pay and eight working hours per day. The movement, though, was brutally and barbarously suppressed by the administrative power rulers. Many worker leaders were killed and wounded while many others were captured and executed. However, following the struggle the capitalists were compelled to accept the demands of the workers; 1 May has become the great festival day of the working class and laboring people throughout the world. Since then, promoting and expanding the 1 May spirit, the working class and laboring people throughout the world have unitedly stepped up struggle under various forms to gain the rights to welfare, democracy, and social justice. Noteworthy is that over the past year, the movements of struggle of the working class and laboring people for peace and to oppose acts of oppression and racial discrimination for democracy and social justice have expanded even more widely in various countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America. The movements have been extensively expanded to the extent that they have become a vigorous strength and served as a favorable trend which cannot be checked by any reactionary power.

In our country in particular, under the beacon of the seventh, eighth, and ninth resolutions of the fourth party Central Committee, over the past year the working class and multiethnic laboring people have scored achievements in many fields in the cause of socioeconomic defense, building, and development. Noteworthy is that we have successfully achieved the target of producing

140,000 metric tons of rice, an increase of 40 percent as compared to that in the previous year. The industrial production increased by 15 percent as compared to that in 1988. The volume of circulation and transportation of goods increased by six percent, while the volume of transportation of passengers increased by 18 percent; circulation of retailing goods increased by 42 percent; exported goods increased by 35 percent; and imported goods increased by 48 percent as compared to those in 1988.

Along with this, in other fields, the Lao working class and multiethnic laboring people have also achieved success in improving their living conditions and their social, educational, public health welfare, and other fields. This shows that the Lao working class and multiethnic laboring people have supported the line and policies of the party and state, enhanced the spirit of revolutionary enthusiasm, resolutely switched to implementing the new economic management mechanism, promoted and encouraged the spirit of mastery, and enhanced creative ideas to gradually increase the labor productivity and working efficiency.

Nevertheless, in light of the restructuring, the Lao working class and multiethnic laboring people still have to learn more and enhance their spirit of perseverance to contribute to the common struggle of the working class and laboring people throughout the world. In particular in the immediate future, to promote and expand the 1 May spirit, the working class and multiethnic laboring people of Laos will have to concentrate on fulfilling the following tasks:

They should strive to educate and train the working class and laboring people to maintain a high level of patriotic spirit; increasingly raise the level of their understanding in the political, ideological, cultural, scientific, and technical fields to broaden the emulation campaigns in agricultural production to fulfill the target of 180,000 metric tons; expand business production; step up engaging in labor; promote creative ideas; step up taking care of the daily life and protecting the just rights and interests of workers and state employees; strive to rally all patriotic people of all strata to firmly consolidate the revolutionary alliance of workers, peasants, students, and intellectuals; strive to correctly implement the line and policies of the party and state with a view to strengthening the international solidarity and cooperation; and attentively consolidate, perfect, and strengthen trade union organizations at all levels, both in terms of quantity and quality.

Only by so doing can our Lao working class and laboring people successfully fulfill their lofty obligations as entrusted by the party and state. For the 1 May spirit, let our Lao working class and laboring people march forward!

Leaders Commemorate SRV Victory Anniversary

BK0205052590 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Republic; and Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], jointly sent a greetings message on 30 April to Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee; Comrade Vo Chi Cong, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of State; Comrade Do Muoi, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Comrade Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly of the SRV. The message reads:

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the victory of the fraternal Vietnamese people in the struggle to completely liberate the country, on behalf of the LPRP Central Committee, the SPA, the Council of Ministers of the LPDR, the multiethnic Lao people, and in our own names, we would like to convey warmest salutations and greetings, profound militant solidarity, and best wishes to you, comrades, and through you, to the CPV Central Committee, the Council of State, the National Assembly, the Council of Ministers of the SRV, and all heroic Vietnamese people.

The victory was the fruit of the hard, difficult, and undaunted struggle carried out by the Vietnamese people against old and new colonialism and all acts of foreign aggression for national independence and freedom. Throughout the decades of the just struggle under the talented leadership of the former Indochinese Communist Party or the present CPV, the Vietnamese people sacrificed everything to overcome numerous difficulties and obstacles, in particular during the most brutal war of the neocolonialists. Pursuing the correct and clear-sighted direction put forth by President Ho Chi Minh, great leader of the Vietnamese people and outstanding revolutionary of the international communist movement, the Vietnamese people systematically scored victories in their national liberation cause and achieved great, final victory on 30 April 1975. The great victory served as a significant factor directly contributing to the victory of the Lao people. We consider it as our common victory. The renowned victory is not only significant to the Vietnamese people, but also serves as an encouragement for the movements of struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress in the world.

The Lao people, as close comrades-in-arms of the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples who in the past shared the same destiny, are elated to commemorate this victory day. The Lao people take this occasion to express profound gratitude to the CPV, the government, and fraternal people of Vietnam for having fulfilled the noble and pure international proletarian obligations and rendering assistance to the Lao Revolution.

After completely liberating the country and achieving national reunification, the CPV has led the Vietnamese people to heal the wounds of war and has built a new, progressive, and just system, thereby scoring basic achievements in many fields. At present, the Vietnamese people are actively implementing the resolutions of the Sixth CPV Congress and have apparently scored initial achievements in pursuing the renovation policy. The LPRP, the LPDR Government, and the multiethnic Lao people are elated to note that the traditional and sacred special relations, great solidarity and friendship, and all-around cooperation between the two countries of Laos and Vietnam have been fruitfully developed with each passing day. On this glorious occasion, the Lao people wish the fraternal Vietnamese people new, still greater achievements in implementing their renovation policy in accordance with the line set forth by the CPV.

Kaysone Phomvihan Promotes Rice Production

BK0205095190 Vientiane KPL in English 0855 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 2 (KPL)—Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee], chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], recently toured and met the people in Don Nokkhoum village, Sisattanak District, Vientiane Prefecture.

The CM [Council of Ministers] chairman exchanged ideas on production of rice by introducing new and modern technology to ensure an increased yield of 3.5 tons per hectare at least.

Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan, in this connection, urged the mass organizations to involve themselves in agricultural production activities.

Deputy Foreign Minister on Narcotics Problem

BK0105001490 Vientiane Television Service in Lao 1300 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Interview with Lao Deputy Foreign Minister Souban Salitthilat by unidentified announcer on the narcotics problem and on Lao-U.S. cooperation in suppressing the problem—recorded; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted]

[Announcer] As a signatory to the anti-narcotics treaty, what contribution has Laos made to the enforcement of the treaty?

[Souban Salitthilat] The cultivation of poppy, marijuana, or coca has proliferated in all continents, not only in Asia. The planting of poppy for producing opium has been going on in Laos for more than 150 years now. In the old days, opium was produced for household consumption by the people because it was regarded a a kind of medicine. It was then legal to plant poppy for such purposes. However, in recent years poppy cultivation in many countries, especially in Thailand, Burma and Laos, has increased tremendously. As I said before, one kilogram of opium is worth $5,000 to $6,000 in foreign countries. Naturally, the price in Laos is also high. Planters increase opium production because the demand is rising. One kilogram of opium brings several times more money than one kilogram of coffee beans.

The international law and treaty recognize the use of opium for medical purposes, but it is illegal to use opium for other purposes. Our country has been praised by the international community for its endeavors and contribution to the enforcement of the international treaty and law. We are very proud of this. In fact, the Lao Government is very determined in this regard because it realizes that the danger of narcotics is spreading alarmingly throughout the world. I believe the Lao Government has adopted strict measures to deal with narcotics trafficking. In 1988, the Lao Government, with its own resources, destroyed two heroin factories in Oudomsai Province. The foreign culprits and Lao authorities involved in the case were arrested and imprisoned. The drastic actions taken by the Lao Government have been widely acclaimed throughout the world.

In order to fulfill its commitments to the international law, the Lao Government has been very cooperative with the United Nations in the anti-narcotics organization in Vienna. In 1988, the Lao Government signed an agreement [with the United Nations] to launch a comprehensive development program worth over U.S.$5 million in Phalavek and encouraged the opium-growing mountainous people to resettle in the development zone to earn more income and enjoy better living conditions. Once they are resettled, they will be able to increase their production for rural markets. Their life in the mountains as opium growers is quite difficult because they have to move around every year. This program will benefit the mountainous people and is in line with the objectives of the treaty.

Recently, we signed an agreement with the U.S. Government on cooperation to reduce poppy cultivation and to suppress drug trafficking, which includes training courses for police and customs officials as well as exchanges of information. The U.S. Government has given nearly U.S.$8 million to finance a project in Houa Phan Province, which has been smoothly carried out. During his recent visit, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for narcotics suppression also noted the progress of this project and expressed support for its expeditious completion so it can become an example for the implementation of other projects that will help improve the living conditions of the people.

Allow me to tell you more about the significance the Lao Government has attached to its international commitments in this regard. It has set up a company called the Mountainous Region Development Company, which has been active in developing rural and mountainous areas and encouraging the mountainous people to move down to the lowlands and halt poppy cultivation. As far as I know, large numbers of mountainous people have stopped opium cultivation and forest destruction and come down to contribute to the development of the newly established towns.

This is a most praiseworthy achievement acclaimed by many countries. However, we have failed to make sufficient efforts to propagate the objectives of this company. In addition to rural development, the company is also active in suppressing or reducing poppy cultivation. If we can widely publicize this program, many countries will follow suit so they can effectively contribute to the enforcement of the treaty. Moreover, Article 153 of the Criminal Code, recently endorsed by the People's Supreme Assembly, clearly stipulates that narcotics-related offenses are liable to two to 10 years imprisonment. This legal measure has provided a considerably, if not completely, solid foundation for us to carry on the narcotics suppression operation and to reduce and curb poppy cultivation within the legitimate demands of our society. This is our contribution to the enforcement of the international law and the current international efforts to eliminate the danger of narcotics.

Sisavat Keobounphan Returns From PRC 30 Apr

BK0205094790 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 2 (KPL)—Mr. Sisavat Keobounphan, Politburo member and secretary of the LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee] who is also secretary of the party committee and mayor of Vientiane, returned here on April 30 from Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China, after a two-week friendship visit.

The delegation was met at the airport by Mr. Phimpha Thepkhamheaung, alternate member of the LPRP CC, and other officials.

Mr. Liang Feng, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] was also on hand.

Philippines

Senator Demands Review of Relations With U.S.

HK0205095790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] U.S. exploitation of Filipinos is not limited to the area of bilateral military relations, specifically, the maintenance of U.S. military bases in Olongapo and other parts of the country. Rather, U.S. abuses and exploitation can be seen and felt in the economic, social, cultural, and educational aspects of bilateral relations. Consequently, Senator Teofisto Guingona has urged that the coming exploratory talks between the two countries not be restricted to security issues. Instead, the agenda of the 14 May exploratory talks should include a comprehensive review of Philippines-U.S. relations.

Earlier, Guingona also asked that the talks review three military agreements between the two countries, namely: the mutual defense treaty, mutual assistance pact, and the Philippines-U.S. Military Bases Agreement.

Guingona also urged that the talks discuss possible U.S. assistance in strengthening the Philippines' claim over Sabah. He added that the agenda of the talks should be made public.

Meanwhile, Senator Rene Saguisag asked that the Senate be represented in the Philippine panel so that the people's deputies will be informed of the talks directly.

Rebel 'Assassination Unit' Assails Bases Talks

HK0105135190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1338 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Manila, May 1 (AFP)—Communist urban assassins in Manila assailed forthcoming talks on the future of U.S. military bases in the Philippines in a statement issued here Tuesday.

The Alex Boncayao Brigade, the Manila assassination unit of the New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas, called on Filipinos to "let us lead the struggle of the Filipino people against the U.S. military bases in our country."

They assailed the exploratory talks set to begin on May 14 as "nothing but betrayal of the Filipino people by the U.S.-Aquino regime," a reference to the government of President Corazon Aquino. The brigade did not specify the form of actions it would take against the U.S. bases, whose lease expires next year.

Unknown men circulated the statement at a Labor Day rally by the leftist May 1 Movement (KMU) labor federation. The KMU, which is suspected of being a communist insurgent front, called for the removal of U.S. bases in this country during its rally.

The brigade is believed responsible for the murders of hundreds of soldiers, policemen and civilians in this city in the past three years. It has also claimed responsibility for the murder of U.S. military advisor, Army Colonel Nicholas Rowe in April 1989.

The U.S. Government issued a travel advisory in March warning Americans that leftist rebels had threatened violence during Holy Week against U.S. personnel and facilities.

Rally Urges Higher Wages, Bases Removal

HK0105090590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Thousands of workers have flocked to a rally at Luneta to observe Labor Day today. The Luneta rally, jointly sponsored by the 1 May Movement [KMU] and the Labor Advisory and Consultative Council [LACC], will press for a 23-pesos increase to the daily minimum wage as demanded by the KMU. Meanwhile, the LACC wants the government to remove U.S. military bases from the country and to implement genuine agrarian reform program.

In addition, National Labor Union President (Dioleyo Lerum) asked Congress to adopt a law which will provide higher wages for workers. Speaking at the Makati forum early this morning, (Lerum) said the issue of higher wages should not be left in the hands of regional wage boards. He added that workers are presently suffering and need the help of Congress.

Meanwhile, KMU Assistant Secretary General Ernesto Arellano proposed a review of existing laws on overseas employment.

Riot Squads Disperse Workers Protesting Bases

HK0205041490 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 2 May 90 pp 1, 8

[By correspondent Chandler Ramas III, with reports from M. Cagurangan, Franc Florida]

[Text] Riot squads clashed with workers in San Fernando and Tacloban cities yesterday as militant labor groups led by the Kilusang Mayo Uno [KMU—1 May Movement] demanded in nationwide Labor Day rallies the ouster of U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

Philippine Air Force security men injured about 100 people, including 10 journalists and boys and girls who performed in a skit, when they attacked about 5,000 workers in front of Clark Air Base [CAB] in San Fernando Pampanga.

Identified as among the injured newsmen was Roberto Quito, provincial correspondent of the PHILIPPINE STAR, who was still unconscious at the hospital at press time. Others injured were Noel Vizcocho of the MANILA TIMES, Jun Dumakis of BAGONG PINOY [NEW FILIPINO], Nel Dizon of HEADLINE MANILA, Arlan Naeg of the ANGELES SUN, Elmer Cato of the MANILA CHRONICLE, Rolando Bagtas, 17, Jun Baul, 17, Rodrigo Cueva and Elena Talastas.

The identities of the other injured were not immediately available, but hospital authorities said about 30 were in serious condition, 10 of them newsmen and 20 demonstrators. KMU leaders said 41 demonstrators remained unaccounted for as of 8 p.m.

Oliver Policarpio, a certain Jane, Jerome Tagala, Rolly Reyes, May Policarpio, a certain Roel, a certain Espinosa, Edong Ladon (all of Tarlac);

Reynaldo Montabon, provincial chairman of a fishermen's group called Lambat; Fred Zapanta, Nito de Guzman, Ariano Muntabon, Ding Gonzalez, Argie Vanessa, Joe Gonzalez, Lucy Dampil, a certain Lalla, Debbie Umagam, Marilyn de Leon, Nits Cunanan, Manny Abelgas, Lenny Alcantara, Leonie, Rose (all from Bataan);

Remigio Magat, Guillermo Padilla, Romulo Villanueva, Marlo Flores, Juan Quiambao, Jun Rosalio, Nestor Padlan, Ernesto Joya, Leni Maparaig, Domingo Espinosa, George Pagua, Lito Aguda, Ramon Despi, Jose Gados, Ruben Jamet and Juanito Vitangcul (all from Pampanga).

A certain Colonel Benadicto of the CAB Command reportedly ordered the dispersal, according to Lt. Col. Diosdado Pili who oversaw the security at the base perimeter during the rally.

The workers wanted to post at the base gate a "notice of termination of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement." The "notice" was a streamer that proclaimed: "Attention, U.S. officials and personnel, Your occupation of this base is terminated and you are hereby ordered to dismantle your war machine and nuclear arms and start peaceful evacuation of your troops and equipment by September 1991."

The soldiers said the ralliers may stay only at a designated distance from the gate. They charged the crowd when the ralliers inched forward.

Long after the last rallier was chased away, troops continued to pummel newsmen with truncheons, although the newsmen identified themselves and informed the soldiers that they were covering the affair for the national dailies. The soldiers also smashed the windshields and windows of buses and jeepneys used by the demonstrators to get to Pampanga from surrounding provinces.

Pampanga and Zambales press clubs denounced the violence on their members and denounced Brig. Gen. Demetrio Camua, CAB camp commander, for arming the riot squad with pillbox bombs.

Rep. Carmelo Lazation ordered an investigation of all officers involved in the violence.

In Tacloban City, police fired water cannons at about 1,000 workers, students and other demonstrators led by the dean of the University of the Philippines branch in the Visayas.

Eight leaders were arrested but Dean Antonio Abilar and several others sought refuge at another school. Police said 20 protesters and one policeman were injured. The demonstrators hurled rocks and pop bottles as the police attacked them.

In Cebu, 2,000 KMU workers demonstrated in front of the U.S. consulate and burned the American flag after pelting it with rotten tomatoes.

In Iloilo City, 800 demonstrators demanded that President Aquino resign for failing to live up to her promises to protect workers.

In Davao City, 1,800 workers from 12 firms and aligned with the moderate Trade Union Congress of the Philippines [TUCP] and the militant KMU were prevented from holding separate rallies.

Police first stopped 650 TUCP workers who were marching to their rally area, then turned back 1,100 KMU members who were marching toward another area. Police said the workers had no rally permits. But 3,000 other TUCP members and 10,000 KMU followers were already at their respective sites when the incident happened.

In Cagayan de Oro, 1,000 members of the Federation of Free Workers, 3,000 TUCP followers and 1,500 KMU supporters held three separate rallies. The separate rallies of the TUCP and the KMU nationwide highlighted the divisiveness of the labor sector.

The main antibases rally of the KMU was held at the Luneta in Manila, attended by about 50,000 workers.

At about 6:20 p.m., a group of about 200 workers marched to the nearby U.S. embassy to hand over a "notice of termination of the bases treaty."

Manila Mayor Gemiliano Lopez Jr. accepted the notice goodnaturedly to prevent violence from erupting. The demonstrators then dispersed peacefully.

Over 1,000 policemen were deployed for crowd control duty.

PRC Ambassador Explains Stand on Taiwan Trade

HK0205101390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 1 May 90 p 15

[By Lindablue Romero]

[Text] China is not opposed to the private sector's initiatives for closer trade relations with Taiwan as long as the Philippine government does not officially encourage such efforts, Peking's envoy said yesterday.

Ambassador Wang Yingfan, head of the Beijing mission in Manila, said the Philippines and China need "better understanding of each other" so that both countries can have better relations.

Although he did not specify, Wang said some restrictions imposed by the Board of Investments must first be removed by the government.

"We are not opposing any trade relations with Taiwan, as long as it is just the initiative of the private sector and it is not official," Wang said.

Wang signed an agreement with Trade and Industry Secretary Jose S. Concepcion for the purchase from China of 700,000 to one million metric tons of cement to solve the shortage in the country.

Delivery of cement will be determined by both sides not later than June this year. However, Concepcion said about 10 million bags of cement earlier ordered are due to arrive this month from China.

The price of cement will be based on the prevailing international market price but China promised to give a competitive offer considering the friendly relations between the two countries.

ADB Says Aquino Government Lacks 'Foresight'

HK0205101590 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 1 May 90 p 15

[By Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.]

[Text] The Asian Development Bank [ADB] has criticized the Aquino government for lack of foresight and failure to provide for basic infrastructure requirements of the economy.

Such lack of foresight is evident in the power crisis which has discouraged foreign investments.

"Policy towards infrastructure needs to be more forward-looking so that its provision precedes rather than follows the emergence of demand," the bank said in its 1990 Asian Development Outlook report. It also noted that "the scope of further policy reforms ranges across most sectors of the econoy."

In 1986, the Aquino government decided to mothball the Bataan nuclear power plant but did not come up with a program to provide long term alternative power sources. The Bataan facility was put up to provide 620 megawatts to meet demand until the early '90s. This anticipated power requirement is still unfilled.

The bank said deficiencies in power, transport and communications continue to restrict growth. The power shortages have hurt a number of industries especially textiles, garments, plastics and publishing.

The ADB came out with the assessment even before the power situation in the Philippines took a turn for the worse this summer.

Since the start of the year, losses from brownouts have been mounting. The National Power Corp. conservatively estimated that economic losses resulting from power deficiency have reached about P[pesos]1 billion since January.

Foreign investors whose factories have been paralyzed by the power shortage like those in export processing zones have threatened to pull out of the country. Other foreign investments are now shying away from the Philippines. However, the ADB said the economic slowdown could still be reversed next year if investors' confidence rises and the government pursues vigorous reforms.

Japanese Plane Detained for Violationg Air Space

OW0105065190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0602 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Manila, May 1 KYODO—Philippine Air Force authorities Tuesday ordered a Japanese cargo plane en route from Singapore to Tokyo to land at Ninoy Aquino International Airport after the Boeing 747 plane allegedly violated Philippine air space.

The Nippon Cargo Airlines plane was flying over Philippine territory at 37,000 feet (11,200 meters) when Philippine Air Force controllers ordered it to land at the Manila Airport or it would be intercepted by Philippine fighter jets.

Philippine Air Force Col. Claudeo Cruz said the cargo plane, which was loaded with 20 tons of electronic equipment, seafood, and flowers, did not have clearance to fly over Philippine air space since its clearance had expired April 1.

The plane was monitored by the Air Force the moment it entered the Philippine air defense identification zone some 80 kilometers south of Manila, Cruz said.

The plane's pilot, Satokazu Kuwabara, initially wanted to ignore the urgent request but finally landed his plane at the Manila Airport at 8:15 a.m..

Kuwabara, together with his co-pilot Shiro Aoki and a flight engineer identified only as Fujita, then submitted themselves to the Philippine authorities.

"I always think of safety," Kuwabara told KYODO news service. Cruz said it may take some time to secure a new diplomatic clearance for the plane, since Tuesday is a holiday in the Philippines.

Cargo Plane Fined for Intrusion

HK0205033390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] A plane owned by Nippon Cargo Air Lines of Japan, which entered Philippine air space without diplomatic clearance and was ordered to land at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport [NAIA] by the authorities, was fined almost half a million pesos. According to reports, the plane came from Singapore and was bound for Narita, Japan when ordered by NAIA authorities to land at Manila Airport. The cargo plane was detained for over eight hours before it was allowed to leave.

Aircraft Released by Authorities

OW0105141090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0930 GMT 1 May 90

[Excerpt] Manila, May 1 KYODO—A Japanese cargo plane detained Tuesday morning by Philippine aviation authorities for allegedly violating Philippine air space took off for Tokyo at 4:15 PM the same day after getting diplomatic clearance from the Department of Foreign Affairs, airport authorities said.

The Flight Operations Center of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport here said Nippon Cargo Airlines Flight 280 was allowed to leave Manila after the Japanese Embassy succeeded in getting a clearance from the Department of Foreign Affairs. [passage omitted]

Executive Branch Seeks Broader Powers

HK0205040990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 2 May 90 pp 1, 9

[By David Jude Sta. Ana and Rowena Bundang]

[Text] Despite the cool response from congressmen and a Cabinet body, the executive branch is determined to ask Congress for broader powers, possibly including the power to legislate, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon said yesterday.

Drilon, head of the Cabinet Cluster E on security and political matters, said President Aquino and the Cabinet will take up today exactly what powers the Chief Executive will ask from Congress.

Asked if Mrs. Aquino will ask for the power to legislate, Drilon said: "All options are still open... The President can be delegated legislative powers as it is up to Congress to delegate."

But he said that Mrs. Aquino has yet to decide on the recommendation of the Cabinet cluster he heads. The Cabinet Cluster E recommended on Monday that Mrs. Aquino reexamine her position on the extension of the state of emergency and her request for broader powers, citing the improved security situation.

But Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III quickly made it clear that this did not mean Malacanang was abandoning its quest for additional emergency powers. He said the Cabinet Cluster E advised Mrs. Aquino to keep her options open while it reassesses the security situation in the next two to three weeks. After that time, the Cabinet group will make a final recommendation on whether or not the state of emergency should be extended beyond June 8.

Drilon said yesterday that the final decision rests on Mrs. Aquino. Mrs. Aquino said on Monday that the emergency powers granted her under the Emergency Powers Act were limited and, therefore, the possibility of her abusing them was remote. She said the power to legislate was among these powers.

Congressmen remained cool to the planned extension, saying the conditions prevailing after the December putsch no longer existed and that the emergency powers given to Mrs. Aquino under Republic Act 6826 were enough to enable her to address the urgent problems of the nation.

Anticipating a possible angle of justifying an extension of the state of emergency, Assistant Majority Leader Raul Roco, one of the main authors of the Emergency Powers Act and who is against an extension, said Mrs. Aquino cannot cite the current power crisis as reason for extended and expanded powers.

"As early as December, they should have been preparing for the worst but they did not do anything to anticipate the power problem," Roco said, referring to administration officials.

The congressmen, he said, are disappointed with the inefficient handling of the crisis by the National Power Corp. (Napocor). "Their (Napocor officials) only hope is the rainy season. But what if the rains don't come?" he said.

"They were given the power to action the power situation, but they did not use it properly. They cannot expect Congress to give such powers again if ever it (Congress) extends the emergency powers (act)," he said.

Republic Act 6826 grants the President the power "to conserve and regulate the distribution and use of power and energy resources," among other things.

Drilon said the Cabinet Cluster E wants to assess the situation in the next two to three weeks and is adopting an "open options policy." "It is possible that we will recommend that an extension or expansion is no longer needed," he said. "Our options remain open at this point. We would like to look at the situation for the next two or three weeks."

Drilon, one of the guests at the Labor Day celebration of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) at the Araneta Coliseum, said it is up to the President to decide whether or not the "open-options policy" will be adopted. The Cabinet cluster just made a recommendation and the "final word is with the President," he said.

"We would want to meet with the whole Cabinet and discuss this question to get a full view," he said.

Aside from Drilon, the members of the Cabinet Cluster E are Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig Jr,m Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, Local Government Secretary Luis Santos, and National Security Adviser Rafael Ileto.

Meanwhile, Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion Jr. said he favors a six-month extension of the state of emergency. He said his department has drafted nine proposed National Emergency Memorandum Orders (NEMOs), which are aimed at putting the economy back on the right track. The nine proposals are on taxes, import duties, smuggling, investments, investment flow, improving the bureaucracy and investment incentives.

For his part, Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] deputy chief of staff, said the emergency powers should be used to address the economy rather than security considerations.

"Whatever affects the economy affects the peace and order situation also," he said, citing strikes and disruption of public services.

Biazon Views Necessity of Emergency Powers

HK0205030790 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 2 May 90 p 10

[Text] The Armed Forces can contain all destabilization attempts against the government even if President Aquino no longer has emergency powers, Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, acting AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, said yesterday.

In related developments:

—Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon said the recommendation of the Cabinet committee on security asking the president to "re-examine" her position on the possible extension of the Republic Act [RA] 6826, otherwise known as the National Emergency Act, is not yet final. She could adopt or discard the recommendation, he added.

—Trade Secretary Jose Concepcion will propose today at the Cabinet meeting in Malacanang nine "specific measures" to check smuggling and other unlawful trading. All the measures, he said, needed Ms. Aquino's emergency powers for implementation.

—Rep. Francisco Sumulong (LDP [Struggle of Filipino Democrats], Rizal) said ranking House leaders will meet on Friday to come up with an initial position on the possible extension of RA6828.

Ms. Aquino sought an extension and expansion of her emergency powers to maintain peace and order and sustain economic growth.

Biazon, who figured prominently in quelling the December coup attempt, said Ms. Aquino needs extra powers to act on trade, rather than security, matters.

At the same time, he dismissed speculations that the departure of Gen. Renato de Villa, Armed Forces chief of staff, for the United States may trigger another coup attempt.

"The military is provided with structures independent of personalities. That is why if the elements that might want to try to take over the government think that with the absence of General de Villa, the situation for them is better, they are wrong," Biazon told Malacanang reporters.

Earlier, the Cabinet committee on security headed by Drilon moved for a re-examination of the government position on the extra powers because the security situation has improved.

At the House, Sumulong said the House will finalize their stand on emergency powers soon.

Sumulong said if Malacanang decides to formally request the Senate and the House to extend Ms. Aquino's emergency powers, the House will have an emergency caucus on Monday when Congress resumes session.

House leaders are looking forward to hear Ms. Aquino's "justifications," he said. "In any case, I think the matter will be cleared up by next week."

Aquino Claims Strength of Insurgents Declining

HK3004093790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1300 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Statement by President Corazon C. Aquino on the "Ask the President" program—live or recorded; date and place not given; italicized portions in English]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] My visit to barangay Sta. Rita, Tarlac, is historical. Perhaps some of our countrymen do not know that Sta. Rita was the cradle of the New People's Army [NPA] during the past regime. My visit to Sta. Rita marks the reconciliation between the government and its people, a reconciliation that can only lead to the country's economic progress. I visited Sta. Rita to show our brothers who have not disassociated themselves from the NPA movement the government's sincere efforts to end bloodshed in the country. May the progress of Sta. Rita and the cooperation showed by Comrade Dante awaken these brothers to the reality that their objectives are in vain.

Many communist countries have turned their backs on Marxism. Many East European countries have now embraced democracy. In the world's history, this ideology has now been buried. Democracy has now been recognized as the sole humanitarian way toward progress. I therefore appeal to our countrymen who still believe in the power of arms that Sta. Rita has turned its back from violence. Respond to the call of present events. Return to our peaceful society, and like Comrade Dante, let us cooperate for our progress.

Last year, it was evident that many of our brothers continuously turned away from communist principles. According to a report by the Department of National Defense, the strength of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [CPP-NPA] in 1989 declined sharply. Their force has been reduced by over 4,000 regular soldiers, including 64 cadre leaders. They lost about 2,000 weapons, and the number of controlled and influenced barangays were reduced by 25 percent.

Despite reported atrocities by the sparrow units, the number of persons they killed went down by 30 percent. Because of the decline in their strength, the CPP-NPA leadership decided to reshuffle their members. The reorganization was a bloody one, as over 200 suspected deep penetration agents were liquidated; their remains were later found in what was called the "killing fields".

The CPP-NPA is like a fish that needs water to live—that water being the people's support. But these people, who previously gave their support, continue to distance themselves from them for many reasons. One is the CPP-NPA's forced collection of progressive taxes. Those who oppose this are intimidated by burning or destroying their properties. Last year, over 220,000 pesos worth of properties were burned and destroyed by the NPA.

In 1988, the CPP mobilized an average of 1,450 members of its front organization for mass action. This went down sharply by 46 percent in 1989. This year's CPP initiated welgang bayan [nation's strike] failed to gain ground. I hope the signals are clear. We are seeing here the tell-tale signs of a moribund movement; an organization that has lost its course. The jubilant return of Eastern Europe to the fold of democracy has reduced the local communist movement to an isolated struggle that has seen better days.

On the other front, the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front continues to suffer from the effects of power struggle among its leaders, and the demoralization of its rank and file. Last year, the number of its armed regulars declined by three percent. Moreover, 49 leaders and almost 4,000 followers surrendered to the government.

All these underscored one single truth: Armed struggle is more foolish and futile. Our people have grown tired of the violence inflicted by Filipinos against fellow Filipinos. The people who nursed the New People's Army at its infancy are the very same people who now advocate the cause of progress through peaceful means.

The advocacy of the ways of peace is also gaining ground in our labor front. The past three years have been characterized by improved labor relations and a decrease in adherence to the adversarial moods of settling labor disputes.

Last year, the total number of factory strikes decreased by 25 percent compared to the number of strikes in 1988. Strikes declined from 435 in 1987 to 267 in 1988 to just 197 in 1989. This stability in the labor sector is beneficial not only to the government, but also beneficial, most of all, to our workers, employees, and our economy. [passage omitted] On Tuesday, the first day of May, the nation will honor the workers who moved the gears and pinions of our economy. I would like to dedicate that day to the advocates of peace in the labor front. I ask the nation to join me in honoring management and labor leaders, employers, and employees who have opted to setlle their differences amicably.

At a crucial time such as this, their rejection of hostility [word indistinct] for the nation's continuing march toward development. I ask those who, with hidden motives, continue to sow unrest and advocate violence to reject their divisive ways. This is a time to be one.

Four years ago, we set out to free our labor sector from the oppressive structure that fueled division among its ranks. We set out to stabilize a volatile situation, then we embarked on a crusade to enhance workers' rights and welfare, to generate jobs that will absorb the expanding labor market, to rationalize the fixing of wages, and to adopt measures that would protect the working man's income. We have already achieved much. We do have a long way to go, however, with our continuing peace in our labor front, we know we can get there much sooner. *Many thanks to all.*

Editorial Counters Claim

HK3004035990 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 30 Apr 90 p 10

[Editorial: "Demoralized"]

[Text] President Aquino says the communist and the Muslim secessionist threats are waning. She says both the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army] and the MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] are demoralized, for different reasons. The collapse of communist regimes in Eastern Europe has so demoralized the Communist Party of the Philippines and its armed component, the New People's Army, while the Moro National Liberation Front is perceived to have serious leadership problems. There is so much that is wishful in this assessment.

The communist timetable may have been set back by the collapse of its international support system, but the threat is far from over. The military reports from Surigao last week and from Davao this week do not tell us that the government is winning the insurgency war; scores of fatalities have been inflicted on the government side by the communist dissidents in long gunbattles. On Negros island, the military bombardment of the "Chicks" area has displaced innocent population but inflicted sparing casualties on the guerillas who have since shifted to the northern part of the island. The wind of insurgency is blowing more strongly in Negros today than at any other time.

Assuming for the sake of argument that these facts did not exist to contradict Mrs. Aquino's assessment, there is a long way to go before we could claim to have successfully squashed the communist revolutionary movement. In the East European countries where communist parties were in control, it was easy for those in power to undertake political liberalization once they decided to renounce communist monopoly on political power. They were in control and they could decide to liberalize without opposition from the liberals who wanted them converted to liberalism. Our situation is something else. The communists and their armed guerillas may wish to abandon armed struggle, but there must be a corresponding effort to open up the political process to allow them to participate on the same terms and with the same chances as all the others. Until the state decides to open up the electoral process to the communists and their armed comardes, who must of course throw away their arms, it cannot look forward to the collapse of the communist revolutionary movement.

As for the Muslim secessionists, there is so much imprudence in the President's statement. Sometime next month, the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC] will meet in Cairo. There we will have an opportunity to see how the OIC ministers will react to the MNLF application for regular membership in the all-powerful organization. Tentative reports from the Middle East have given the Foreign Office early jitters. The possibility of the MNLF gaining admission into the OIC like the Arafat's PLO appears to be stronger than ever.

Assuming for the sake of argument that the entire MNLF can be written off, anyone who has been to Mindanao or who listens to travelers coming from the region will have heard of the incessant talk about the Mindanao Independence Movement [MIM]. Those who used to dismiss Reuben Canoy as a crackpot trying to call attention to himself by issuing xerox facsimiles of his Mindanao passport and Mindanao dollar are finally in a position to see that it is no longer a mere laughing matter. With the reported support of the forces under military rebel leader Lt. Col. Alexander Noble, the MIM could soon create unexpected problems for the Manila government.

Foreign Businessmen Assured About Power Supply

HK3004093990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 30 Apr 90

[By Dick Sinchiongco of Mobile Unit No. 6]

[Text] President Aquino today assured foreign businessmen that the power supply will improve by 7 May, as the Sucat 2 Power Plant starts operation. According to her, she received a report this morning from National Power Corporation President Ernesto Aboitiz, who said the situation will be better by the first week of May. The president made this assurance as foreign firms at the Cavite Export Processing Zone threatened to transfer operations to Thailand and other countries in Asia because they are suffering losses as a result of the constant brownouts. In her regular news conference, the president said:

[Begin recording] This morning I was asking Governor Remulla about this item that I had read in the newspapers and he said he was not aware of it. However, if it is because of the power shortage, I would like to assure them that based on the latest report of Ernie Aboitiz, there is a great deal of improvement that is foreseen by May 7. So I will instruct Secretary Concepcion to talk to them because I would not like them to leave the country. As you know, that would mean a lot of jobs lost and this is not something that we would like to see happen. [end recording]

President Aquino showed concern about the foreign investors' threat. Meanwhile, she strongly stated and rejected the request to dismiss Aboitiz because of the current energy crisis. She said she has no plans to replace him as head of the state-owned power company.

Aquino Distributes 108,000 Land Patents

HK3004112190 Quezon City City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] President Aquino today strongly appealed to those who are plotting against the government's stability not to push through with their plans. She said the country's progress should not be sacrified. The president made the appeal when she distributed 108,000 land patents to qualified beneficiaries of the Handog Titulo [Title Grant] Program. In her speech, she requested the land beneficiaries not to waste the government's gesture, and that this should help to increase production and resolve job problems.

Honasan Pledges 'Peaceful Constitutional Rescue'

HK0205041190 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 2 May 90 pp 1, 2

[By news editor Julian V. Cruz]

[Text] The underground Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan[National Revolutionist Alliance]-Soldiers of the Filipino People (RAM-SFP) [Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People] yesterday said it plans to stage a "peaceful constitutional rescue in the near future" under which President Aquino will be toppled without bloodshed and her civilian successor asked to hold clean, honest and peaceful elections six months thereafter.

In an open letter to the Filipino people—the fifth in a series since the failure of the August 28, 1987 coup attempt—suspected coup leader former Lt. Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan reiterated his stand against military rule and rejected as a complete fabrication Malacanang's charge that his group planned to close down the media if the December coup had succeeded.

The letter warned civilian and military officials to be fair to "those who risked life and limb, career and family, to save true justice, freedom and democracy in this country," and to realize that Mrs. Aquino "is already a lameduck or 'sunset' president who has lost the respect of her own colleagues and her moral leadership..."

"There has been no collective intention on the part of the Movement to grab political power and install a military dictatorship. The consensus of the Movement was to suggest to the succeeding political leader (after Cory shall have resigned as mandated by the people's will expressed in a peaceful constitutional rescue or civilian-military bloodless coup), the formation of a collective leadership through a multi-sectoral and multi-partisan Executive Council that recognizes civilian supremacy over the military and is responsive to the just demands of the people. The Executive Council will govern for six months to stabilize the nation preparatory to a peaceful, clean and honest snap election that will serve as vehicle for genuine national reconciliation," Honasan's letter said.

Unless this is done, the letter said, "the presidential election in 1992 will be a farce—marred by massive cheating with the indispensable conspiracy of the Namfrel [National Citizen's Movement for Free Elections] and the Yellow Army."

"The peaceful constitutional rescue, set to be launched in the near future," the letter continued, "will be bloodless and non-confrontational. The united AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines], alarmed by the injustices and oppressions of the Aquino administration and fully aware of the sinister plot of slowly abolishing the AFP to supplant it with the Yellow Army, shall simply announce in due time its peaceful breakaway or withdrawal of support from a vindictive, corrupt and incompetent leadership. Thereafter, millions of citizens, enraged by Cory's false promises, arrogance and injustices, will go to the streets and manifest their righteous indignation. Whererupon, the U.S. Marines, unavoidably and at their own initiative, will escort Mrs. Aquino to Boston for her safety and 'to protect democracy,' although in reality, to protect American interest. In any case, American imperialism should be stopped sooner or later."

Referring to an allegation by Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III that RAM-SFP would have shut down the media had they succeeded in toppling the government, Honasan said "the movement has no intention of instituting press censorship. The tri-media has been an ally for good government through its fearless expose of graft and corruption and other venalities in the Aquino puppet dictatorship characterized by a resign of hatred, greed, lust and terror."

He described the document which Gomez had earlier described to the press as RAM-SFP's "master plan" for setting up a military dictatorship and muzzling the press as "a bogus scrap devised to support the black propaganda of Malacanang against 'rebel soldiers'."

This was the first time the rebel military camp reacted to the so-called "captured document" which Malacanang "declassified" following an interview given by Honasan to the U.S. Cable News Network. The CNN interview was aired abroad, but its publication in a Manila morning newspaper prompted Mrs. Aquino to order Gomez to formulate guidelines for the media in reporting statements of and stories about "rebel military officers."

So far, no sch guidelines have been issued by Malacanang.

Ramos Alleges Honasan Seeks Military Dictatorship

HK0205100390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 2 May 90

[By Eloi Aquino of Mobile Unit No. 12]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos stated that renegade Lieutenant Colonel Gringo Honasan would set up a military dictatorship if he succeeds, and abolish the

Office of the President, Congress, and the media institutions. In his speech in Dagupan City, Ramos said that three top rebel officials would be elected to head the national governing council or the military dictatorship. They are Honasan and former brigadier generals Edgardo Abenina and Jose Maria Zumel. Three other top civilians would be chosen by the top military renegades. The six of them would choose a seventh member who would chair the national governing council.

Ramos added that the support of active military officers and civilians for the rebel soldiers is weakening because of the public's perception of violence and the people's lack of interest in Honasan and his men. The public was cooperative in solving the problem surrounding the December coup, as many military rebels belonging to the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People have been arrested by the government.

Honasan issued a statement which was distributed to some media outlets. He denied that the renegade rebel officers' plan was to set up a national governing council if they were successful in the December coup. Instead, he cited the formation of a collective leadership through a multi-sectoral and multi-partisan executive council that would recognize civilian supremacy.

Ramos again made reference to the earlier allegation of the Office of the President which stated that Honasan would lead a dictatorial government, closing down print and broadcast media institutions, except one which the national governing council would control.

Malacanang Opposes Bail for Marcos Loyalists

HK3004112390 Quezon City City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Malacanang is not in favor of bailing out former assemblyman Rafael Recto, businessman Vicente Puyat, and newsman Lito Gorospe. The three, including a newspaperman Cecilio Arillo, were charged with rebellion. Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III said the government will not allow the accused to be freed on bail. He added that there is a great possibility they might do something violent again against the prevailing democracy.

RAM Weakened by Arrest of Top Military Rebel

HK3004124190 Quezon City City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Acting Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff Major General Rodolfo Biazon said that the arrest of renegade Army Lieutenant Colonel Marcelino Malajacan is a great loss to the rebel soldier forces. Malajacan with RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement] civilian member Romeo Rivera were captured by government operatives last Friday [27 April]. Biazon believes that this will weaken the strength of the groups planning to launch another coup. [passage indistinct]

Defense Chief Calls for Arrest of Recruiters

HK3004021390 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company DZRH in English 2300 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff De Villa has directed major service and area commanders to arrest and investigate military personnel who, on the basis of verified information, are engaged in subversive recruitment. De Villa issued this directive following reports that ultrarightist elements and their allies have been recruiting civilians and military personnel in order to subvert the military as an institution and, at the same time, to gain adherence for purposes of destabilizing the duly constituted government.

On the basis of verified information, military personnel who engage in acts of inciting, convincing, soliciting, or enlisting the support of military personnel or civilians to the rebel force, either directly or indirectly for the purpose of engaging in mutiny, rebellion, sedition, or other destabilizing acts against the government, shall be arrested, investigated, and relieved from his unit [words indistinct] of his activities or influence in the unit. Those found liable shall be referred to the general court martial or separated from service, reverted to inactive status, or discharged as the case may be.

De Villa says that any commander or officer who connives with, protects, or harbours a subversive recruiter, or who knowingly fails to take action against subversive recruitment in his unit will be relieved from his position for a cause.

Arrested Journalist Disowned by Military Group

HK3004124990 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 1100 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] The Young Officers Union [YOU] has disowned newsman Cecilio Arillo as a member of the clandestine military group. A YOU spokesman who identified himself as Carlos Maglalang said in a statement sent to defense reporters that Arillo is not a member of the YOU nor any of its allied revolutionary organizations. YOU was reacting to Arillo's alleged distribution of fake statements at the 365 Club in Makati. Maglalang said that Arillo has never even approached nor has been approached by any YOU officer or member, much less authorized to issue statements on behalf of the organization.

NPA Counterfeiting Investigation Progresses

HK0205030990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 2 May 90 pp 1, 17

[By Olaf S. Giron]

[Text] The arrest last February of two alleged couriers of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) in Geneva, Switzerland, has uncovered a vast network of activity to gain financial support for the anti-U.S. bases campaign of the National Democratic Front (NDF).

Adolphus and Hanneke Hautvast were arrested for trying to deposit large sums of money, including some counterfeit, in bank accounts administered by the CPP.

According to Swiss authorities, the two couriers are full members of the CPP, with close contacts to the party's chairman-in-exile Jose Maria Sison and NDF leader Luis Jalandoni, both living in The Netherlands. The two, however, have denied this charge.

A few weeks ago, Antonio Cabardo, reportedly the No. 2 man in the CPP-controlled New People's Army (NPA), was arrested in Manila with two companions shortly after getting off a flight from Hong Kong. An inspection of Cabardo's suitcase turned up more counterfeit money.

Philippine investigators said Cabardo was being grilled by the party for improper use of funds in the purchase of arms abroad for the NPA.

Certain questions were posed by the investigators: How important is the European connection to the CPP, NPA, and the NDF? Why does the NDF maintain a European office? Why do Sison and Jalandoni live in The Netherlands?

An investigation into the Hautvast arrest is now turning up some of the answers. Police investigation showed that Adolphus Hautvast is directly linked to the Filippinen Groupen Nederland (FNG) and the Komite ng Sambayanang Pilipino [Filipino People's Committee] (KSP), allegedly the NDF's two major support groups in Holland.

Although Sison denies any NDF involvement in Hautvast's activities and claims that the U.S. is involved in a campaign to "criminalize" the NDF's image, many questions arise from the Hautvast arrest and his obvious close ties with the party.

It was noted that Sison's home in Utrecht was acquired through "Samen Wonen," a CPP-controlled Dutch front organization. Hanneke Hautvast is a member of Samen Wonen.

It was held possible that Adolphus and Hanneke are intimately involved with Sison, whom they described to police authorities as a "personal friend."

Former NPA Commander Rejects Aquino's Proposal

HK0205031190 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 2 May 90 p 10

[By Gerry Lirio]

[Text] Conrado Balweg, a former communist New People's Army [NPA] commander, the other day turned down President Aquino's request for him to form a farmers' cooperative in the Cordilleras to increase rice production in the area.

Ms. Aquino brought up the proposal to Balweg during a meeting in Malacanang a few days after she inaugurated an agricultural complex owned by a farmers' cooperative in Capas, Tarlac.

The success of the cooperative, organized by the former NPA chief Bernabe Buscayno, so impressed Ms. Aquino that she urged communist rebels to replicate Buscayno's accomplishment in their respective provinces. In their meeting, Balweg told Ms. Aquino that the problem in the Cordilleras is "political" in nature, not rice supply.

Balweg said the government must first grant the people of the Cordilleras genuine autonomy before they will bother with increasing rice production through the formation of cooperatives.

The government held in February a referendum on autonomy in the provinces of Ifugao, Baguio City, Kalinga-Apayao, Mt. Province, and Benguet. Except for Ifugao, all the areas rejected autonomy for the Cordilleras.

Buscayno, better known as Kumander [Commander] Dante when he was NPA chief, formed the cooperative two years ago after he was released from prison. The cooperative started with 50 farmers as members, most of them rebel returnees. The cooperative, which covered 1,019 hectares of rice lands, had an initial funding of P [pesos] 2.5 million from Land Bank. The cooperative has expanded its membership to 2,000 farmers, acquired 360,000 hectares more of farmlots, and attained a high credit standing.

Ms. Aquino summoned Balweg to Malacanang and to sound him out on the formation of a cooperative. She also singled out, Gregorio Rosal, alias Ka [comrade] Roger of the NPA melito Glor Command in Quezon, to do the same.

De Villa Belies Claims of CAFGU Terrorism

HK3004124790 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 1100 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief General Renato de Villa belies claims made by certain quarters that CAFGU [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit] members allegedly committed terrorist activities in barangay Tibagan, San Miguel, Bulacan. The alleged terrorist activities reportedly resulted in mass evacuation of residents in the area. Jim Bilusano with that report:

[Begin recording] In a letter submitted to Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, de Villa said there were no terrorist activities committed by any member of the CAFGU in barangay Tibagan, San Miguel, Bulacan as reported in the morning tabloid recently. The report was submitted in compliance to a directive issued by Secretary Ramos to De Villa to organize an investigation team in reaction to alleged terroristic activities committed by CAFGU. De Villa said the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the

Philippines-New People's Army] are the ones committing the atrocities so that they can continue exacting taxes from industrial farms located in that area. [end recording]

PC Chief Reminds Units of Responsibilities

HK3004093590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 30 Apr 90

[By Eloi Aquino of Mobile Unit No. 12]

[Text] PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] Chief Major General Cesar Nazareno today ordered all constabulary and police commanders nationwide to arrest communist rebels, even in areas where some military units refuse to operate. In the command operational guidelines sent to all field units, Nazareno reminded all PC commanders that they cannot turn back from their responsibilities. Neither can they excuse themselves from the worsening insurgency situation in the areas they cover because other units of the Armed Forces of the Philippines are doing the same.

General Nazareno said that in the counterinsurgency operations, the PC commander leads by using the necessary means and force to ensure the tactical advantage on all fronts. He also directed all PC-INP offices' tactical organizations to be ready for any eventuality. The PC-INP chief said that the law-enforcement agencies and services should be redirected for the benefit of the masses.

Four Top Communist Rebels Surrender in Ilocos

HK0205040590 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 2 May 90 p 6

[Text] Laoag City—Four top New People's Army [NPA] guerillas in the Ilocos region have surrendered to the government, the military said yesterday.

The four were identified as Joaquin Rumbaoa Dumaliuan or Fernando Urbasa alias Ka [Comrade] Perry, secretary of the Northern Front Committee of the NPA's Ilocos Regional Party Committee; Martin Castillo, alias Ka Quintin, top leader of the Fr Zacarias Agatep Command operating in Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur and native of Kalinga-Apayao; Evelyn Castillo, alias Ka Jojo and Ka Cheda, regional medical officer of the Ilocos Regional Party Committee; and Teresita Callete, alias Ka Katy or Ka Sharon, finance officer of the Ilocos Regional Party Committee and native of Gattaran, Cagayan.

Dumaliuan carries a P [pesos] 100,000 price on his head while a reward of P10,000 has been offered for Castillo's capture.

The four surrendered to Brig Gen Orlando Soriano, chief of the Army's 5th Infantry Division based in Echague, Isabela.

They were presented to Ilocos Norte Gov Rodolfo Farinas, chairman of the Ilocos Norte Peace and Order Council during the fourth anniversary celebration of the 503rd Infantry Brigade held yesterday in Barangay Viyasa, Vintar, Ilocos Norte.

Ka Perry said he and his comrades decided to surrender because they were tired of being fugitives.

"I want to give a new life to my family. I have full trust and confidence in the military and the government of President Aquino so we availed ourselves of the national reconciliation and development program," he said.

15 Soldiers Killed in Davao del Sur Encounter

HK3004022190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in English 2300 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Communist guerillas fired on troops crossing a river in the southern Davao del Sur Province. Fifteen soldiers were killed. Seven other soldiers of the 37th Infantry Battalion were seriously injured during Saturday's rebel attack on the mountain village of Lipankud in Sta. Cruz municipality.

Military spokesman Major Ernesto Amboy said five members of the New People's Army were killed but no bodies were found. Amboy added that the incident occured at about 0700 A.M. when guerrillas fired from an elevated embankment at the troops crossing a river. Some soldiers returned fire but others threw down their weapons as they fled.

PC Commander Denies Aguinaldo 'Free To Roam'

HK0205045990 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Colonel Miguel Fontanilla, Cagayan PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] commander, today denied reports stating that former Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo was free to roam around the province. Fontanilla said if this was true, he could easily have issued the governor his warrant of arrest and taken him into custody:

[Begin Fontanilla recording] The truth is that he is free to run away because he does not want to clash with the soldiers or the INP. It is not true that he is at liberty to visit centers and go to town. If he came, he would have been arrested because we have a warrant of arrest. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Fontanilla also denied Aguinaldo's statement that the newly arrived soldiers in Cagayan support him:

[Begin Fontanilla recording] That is not true. It is impossible because the soldiers I brought here have been my colleagues since their recall from Camp Olivas and Camp Nakar. They have always been with my security forces and it is impossible that they would support him. Even the officers that I brought here have been my friends and colleagues since my assignment in Regional Commands 3 and 4. [end recording]

Thailand

Hun Sen Continues Consultations, Activities

Meets With Chawalit in Phatthaya

BK0105142090 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] It is apparent that Thailand's efforts to solve the Cambodian problem are approaching success, because after the talks between Deputy Prime Minister General Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Prime Minister Hun Sen in Phatthaya this morning, the deputy prime minister said people should look at his face and see whether he is smiling or not. If the talks were not successful, why was he smiling?

The private talks between the deputy prime minister and Hun Sen were held on the seventh floor of a hotel at Phatthaya from about 0900 to 1600. They also had lunch together during the talks. During the almost six hours of talks, Thai and foreign correspondents waited anxiously for the results.

However, answering reporters' questions, the deputy prime minister said that he would not give details of the talks right now. He said there was good understanding during the talks because Hun Sen is reasonable. Everything proceeded well. The deputy prime minister asked correspondents to see if he was smiling.

Prime Minister Hun Sen is scheduled to hold talks with the prime minister's advisory team comprising Kraisak Chunhawan and Surakiat Sathianthai this evening. He is also expected to grant an interview to the mass media this evening.

Says No 'Rush' for 'Summit'

BK0105141090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1400 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Phatthaya, Thailand, May 1 (AFP)—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said here Tuesday [1 May] that he would not meet guerrilla leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk as proposed in June unless preparatory talks between their representatives were successful. Mr. Hun Sen was talking to reporters after discussions with Thai officials. He said representatives for both sides would meet in Bangkok "in a few days" to prepare a face-to-face meeting between himself and the prince in Tokyo.

"If this meeting cannot reach success, then we should not rush for a summit meeting between myself and Prince Sihanouk," he said. But Mr. Hun Sen said he did "not object in principle" to the Tokyo meeting, which was proposed by Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan. Prince Sihanouk, the head of one of two non-communist groups allied with the powerful Khmer Rouge against the Phnom Penh government, has already accepted to go to the Japanese capital for the talks.

Mr. Hun Sen also said that some points in a recent peace plan drafted by the prince were "acceptable," whereas others were not. He listed the acceptable points as those concerning a cease-fire with the fighting forces staying in place, the formation of a supreme national council equally divided between Phnom Penh and the guerrilla coalition, and an international control mechanism to monitor peace in Cambodia.

Comments on Khmer Rouge Part

BK0205005490 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 May 90 pp 1, 3

["Hun Sen Takes Softer Line on Khmer Rouge"—BANGKOK POST headline]

[Text] Phatthaya—Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen, in what was seen as a gesture of flexibility, last night said he would not exclude the Khmer Rouge from a settlement of the 11-year conflict. But Mr. Hun Sen remained adamant against the return of the "genocidal regime".

The Phnom Penh prime minister made the remarks following talks with Defence Minister Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's advisers Kraisak Chunhawan and Surakiat Sathianthai. Of the talks, Mr. Hun Sen would only say they were "successful" and covered a broad range of issues concerning the settlement of the Cambodian problem.

"It is true that the settlement requires the participation of the Khmer Rouge but they should accept the principle of the prevention of the return of the genocidal regime," Mr. Hun Sen said. "So we will not let the Pol Potists return, nor leave them outside the settlement. We have to be in the middle," he added.

Mr. Hun Sen's remarks came after Cambodian President Prince Norodom Sihanouk reiterated the need for the Khmer Rouge to be included in the peace process.

The prince, in a gesture of compromise in his latest nine-point proposal, also dropped insistence on a quadripartite arrangement incorporating the Khmer Rouge and another nationalist faction and omitted mention of dismantling of the two existing regimes.

Much effort is being made for the two Cambodian leaders to meet in Tokyo. Prince Sihanouk last week said he would attend the talks although he was pessimistic about the outcome.

Mr. Hun Sen said he did not object "in principle" to meeting the prince in Tokyo but stressed that this would depend on the outcome of a preparatory meeting between representatives of his group and those of the prince to be held in Bangkok "in a few days." "If the meeting between the representatives of the two sides cannot reach any success, we should not rush for the next meeting between myself and Prince Sihanouk," he pointed out.

Mr. Hun Sen however voiced optimism that some common ground could be reached in the preparatory meeting.

The Phnom Penh Prime Minister said the prince's nine-point peace plan could serve as a basis for discussion, provided the prince did not "oblige" or "force" him to accept the entire package and agreed to consider his proposal too. Mr. Hun Sen said he found some points acceptable, including the prince's call for a ceasefire with a standstill of troops, the formation of a supreme national council and an international control mechanism.

He did not elaborate on the points that were "not acceptable."

Mr. Hun Sen said Phnom Penh dropped its proposal for a unilateral ceasefire after the resistance attacks on its positions following the Vietnamese withdrawal in September. "Formerly I thought we could start by announcing a ceasefire. But soon after the withdrawal, we have seen that a unilateral ceasefire has no sense at all because they are shooting at us every day," he said.

Gen. Chawalit, meanwhile, told reporters last night that he saw no difference in the positions of the two parties. "On the bottom line, the Khmer people want to see peace because everyone has realised that only Cambodia and the Cambodian people are suffering," the Defence Minister said.

He said he believed a ceasefire agreement could be worked out at the Tokyo meeting without any obstacle. However, he said that there might be some minor technical problems. "Everything depends on the mutual trust between the parties which is what we are trying to do," he said.

Mr. Hun Sen will meet Gen. Chawalit again over breakfast this morning. After that he will go sightseeing in Nongnut Park and Phatthaya Bay before flying home.

Meets With Japanese Diplomat

OW0205133090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1206 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 2 KYODO—A senior Japanese diplomat, in Tokyo's first high-level contact with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, has invited him to Japan for peace talks with resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk in June, Japanese sources here said Wednesday. The sources said Yukio Imagawa, minister at the Japanese Embassy here, met Hun Sen for 30 minutes at Pattaya, southeast of Bangkok, where the prime minister was visiting for talks with Thai Deputy Prime Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut on a proposed Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting in Tokyo.

The summit is tentatively set for the first week of June.

During the meeting with the Japanese envoy, Hun Sen was quoted as saying that he is ready to go to Tokyo for talks with Sihanouk if "there are prospects of success at the summit meeting," according to the sources.

Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has invited the two Cambodian leaders to a summit meeting at the suggestion of his Thai counterpart Chatchai Chunhawan, a key mediator for Cambodian peace.

Recognizing only Sihanouk's three-party Coalition Government of guerrilla forces, Japan has refrained from making contact with the Phnom Penh Government, which was installed by Vietnam in early 1979 following its invasion of the Indochinese country and the ouster of the Communist Khmer Rouge faction. A Japanese Foreign Ministry official visited Phnom Penh in February but did not meet Hun Sen though the prime minister was ready to do so, sources said.

Officials of the Phnom Penh Government and Sihanouk's group will meet in Bangkok soon in preparation for a Tokyo round of Cambodian peace negotiations, the first since the previous attempt, which involved the four warring factions, failed in February this year, Japanese sources added.

Supreme Command Official on Cambodian Situation

BK2704123790 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Lieutenant General Narudon Detpradiyut, director of the Supreme Command Information Office, spoke on the border situation at a news conference at the Supreme Command Headquarters on 26 April. He said that the impact of fighting between the Democratic Kampuchea forces and the Heng Samrin troops, by which Thailand has regularly suffered, had reduced in intensity as fighting between the two sides took place mostly deep inside Cambodia. The Supreme Command Information Office director said, however, that fighting among the Cambodians could be likened to a party that had to end one day. [sentence as heard] When the fighting will end depends on the compromising attitude of each Cambodian faction. In particular, Cambodia is now facing economic problems, and countries that support each Cambodian faction also have their own problems.

Officials View U.S. Stand on Tobacco Issue

BK0205005190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 May 90 p 28

[By Chirawat Krongkaeo]

[Text] The US Trade Representative [USTR] has made a major concession to the Thai anti-cigarette lobby in

Washington that may lead to the withdrawal of its petition to the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade [GATT] to force Thailand to open its markets to American tobacco companies.

Under pressure from health activists, the USTR will allow the US Department of Health and Human Services to participate in the Congressional deliberations of the issue—under Section 301 of the US Trade Act—due to start on Friday [4 May] in Washington.

The breakthrough in the battle to keep out the US companies was revealed yesterday by Dr Prakit Wathisathokkit, chairman of the Thai anti-smoking campaign project.

This softening of the USTR's stance may lead to a settlement of the problem before it reaches GATT, the Geneva-based world trade body. Prakit said that about 80 per cent of the petitions submitted to the GATT have been received even before the official US investigation is completed. Prakit will lead a Thai delegation to the public hearing before the Senate Committee on Labour and Human Resources on May 4, during which market access for US cigarette imports into Thailand will be discussed in length.

Owen Smith, president of the US Cigarette Association, who filed the complaint with the USTR, will detail the existing barriers to the trade of foreign cigarettes in Thailand. Other speakers are Congressman Chet Atkins, Robin Tallon (South Carolina representative), Dr Greg Connally and Dr Bill Foegi of the Carter Centre and Prakit.

The public hearing before the Senate Committee on Labour and Human Resources, chaired by Senator Edward Kennedy, is regarded in Washington as part of the senator's continuing drive to amend the US Public Health Service Act. A draft bill of amendment calls for the establishment of a centre that will function as a focus of public information about the hazards of tobacco use. It will also require tobacco manufacturers to label their packaging in such a way as to provide information concerning the dangers of their products.

It is believed that the outcome of the hearing will have tremendous impact on the subsequent hearing on the Atkins bill on May 17, which also backs Thailand's resistance to the US cigarette companies' pressure for market access.

Prakit said that the release of a study on the consequences to public health after countries such as Japan, Taiwan and Malaysia opened their markets to US cigarettes will clearly illustrate a deterioration. The study was conducted by the General Accounting Office. "It is in accordance with the USTR response (to the study) to include a member of the Department of Health and Human Services in the deliberation panel," Prakit said.

Karun Kitisthaphon, deputy director-general of the Business Economics Department, said that Thailand and the US have agreed to a proposed list of six nominees for the GATT dispute settlement panel. Three of them will be selected by the GATT Secretariat to form the panel. The proposed six are from Switzerland, Finland, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Brazil and Argentina.

In a prepared statement to the US Senate, Prakit will testify that GATT may set a tragic precedent if it rules in favour of the US because the tobacco trade defeats almost all of its (GATT's) purposes—that is, to raise living standards, to ensure full employment and a large and steadily growing volume of real income, to develop full use of resources and to expand production and exchange of goods.

Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan yesterday expressed his disappointment over the US's decision to retain Thailand on its "priority watchlist".

Editorial Criticizes U.S. Pressure on Burma

BK0205105590 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 2 May 90 p 3

[Editorial: "We Should Help Burma"]

[Text] The people of Thailand realize that we can be happy only when there is peace in neighboring countries. That is why we give priority to our foreign policy. At present, the 40 million Burmese people, the poorest in the world, are subjected to strong economic pressure from the United States—maybe the United States does not want to feel inferior to the Soviet Union with the latter's pressure on Lithuania. The U.S. Senate has passed a bill banning imports of all kinds of products originating from Burma. The United States was ready to crush the 40 million people of Burma if it had such power.

It is unbelievable to see a superpower with the greatest economic wealth confronting Burma, a country with a per capita income of only 5,250 baht annually, or a monthly salary of about 440 baht, and annual income from national exports worth only 3,450 million baht. The sentence was meted out on Burma by unilateral American standards of judgment on human rights violations, drug trafficking, and environmental pollution. The perversion in thinking of U.S. senators is something Thailand should pay attention to.

In fact, the bill will have to get an endorsement from the U.S. House of Representatives before being signed into law by U.S. President George Bush. Yet, one can take note that the U.S. senators, each of whom can run for the U.S. presidency, are applying American standards in political and ethical values with other countries no matter how different they are from the United States. For the United States, a good country is a country to which the United States can dictate. We are never surprised, therefore, when many Latin American countries have negative attitudes toward the United States.

We pity Burma. How can the Burmese Government declare to the world that it could not effectively suppress narcotics trafficking because it does not have control of the entire country? Thailand itself had to wait nearly 60 years after the political change in 1932 in order to have a democratic government. It is impossible to expect a drastic change in Burma within a day. Pressure on Burma would only result in difficulties for the 40 million Burmese people.

It is the duty of the Thai people and government to help our friends in times of difficulty. We are not giving help to any particular government, good or bad, but we want to help our friends in Burma. Our government once appealed for help from Japan for Vietnam. Why shouldn't we appeal for help for Burma, since Burma deserves sympathy even more than Vietnam? We should call on as many countries as possible to help Burma.

The 380 million people in Southeast Asia have been suffering for a long time from war and poverty. Thailand should help them if it has the opportunity.

Ongoing Debate on Dalai Lama Visit Reported

BK0205021590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 May 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said yesterday Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan must decide whether to allow Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama to visit Thailand. But Chatchai reiterated that the decision must be made by the Foreign Ministry.

"Issuing visa is not my job," Chatchai said flatly when asked for comments on Sitthi's insistance. The prime minister said he has "no policy" on how to deal with the visit which is strongly opposed by China which has ruled Tibet since the 13th century and dismissed talks with the Dalai Lama who has been leading a peaceful struggle for independence.

Chatchai, who has been consistently evasive on the issue, said he does not want to interfere with the work of the Foreign Ministry. "You cannot pass all the bucks to the prime minister," he said.

Chinese Ambassador to Thailand Li Shichun last week met Chatchai to register his government's objection to the Dalai Lama's visit.

Sitthi said as chairman of the National Security Council (NSC), the country's top security agency, the prime minister must make a decision. "The prime minister cannot pass the buck. He must make a decision," said Sitthi who once clashed with Chatchai over their policies on Cambodia. It is not known whether the two have discussed the matter between them.

Sitthi declined to say where he stands on the issue but said Thailand should take into consideration its relations with China in dealing with the Dalai Lama's trip. He said China's concern that the Dalai Lama would use Thailand as a forum for political purposes was understandable.

The Dalai Lama was invited here by the non-governmental Sathiankoset-Nakhaprathip Foundation to join religious functions to mark the 85th birthday of venerated monk Phutthathat Phikkhu in the south this month. The foundation's request for the Dalai Lama to visit Thailand three years ago was turned down by the Prem Government.

The foreign minister said the Dalai Lama's trip has become a divisive issue "that entails both political and security complications." Sitthi said the prime minister must tell the Foreign Ministry what to do "in a formal way—not through the media."

Chatchai on Monday said it was the responsibility of the Foreign Ministry to decide whether to grant a visa to the Dalai Lama. When asked again yesterday who would have the final say, Chatchai said: "Just follow the regulations."

Chatchai then went on to compare the Dalai Lama to a Thai student wanting to study in the United States. "If you don't have an I-20 (immigration paper for education purpose) you cannot go to the US no matter how hard you may lobby," Chatchai said.

Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha on Monday said he did not expect the government to allow the Dalai Lama to visit Thailand.

Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong yesterday raised objection to the visit, saying "it would not be worth the damage caused to the country." "Should we have one person at the expense of the interest of the country?" said Gen Sunthon who is known to have close connections with the Chinese military leadership.

Students of the Maha Chulalongkon Buddhist College yesterday joined various religious and academic groups in pressuring the government to allow the Dalai Lama into Thailand. A letter carrying the signatures of 76 senior Buddhist monks and lecturers supporting the trip and addressed to Chatchai was submitted by representatives of the college at the Government House yesterday. The college is under royal patronage.

The letter, copies of which were made available to the press, said a rejection of the visit would bring disgrace to Buddhism in Thailand because the Dalai Lama is not only the spiritual leader of Tibet but a respected leader of all Buddhists throughout the world. The letter said the trip is religious in nature and has no political motive. "Thailand is a sovereign country and China must not interfere in our internal affairs," it said.

Thamrong Pattamaphat, one of the representatives, said they plan to organize an exhibition on the life and work of the Dalai Lama at their college from May 17-18.

Army Chief on Pro-Democracy Movement in Laos

BK0205023590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 May 90 p 4

[Text] Army Commander-in-Chief Gen [General] Suchinda Khraprayun denied yesterday that Laos had accused Thailand of backing a recent campaign by pro-democracy youths in the communist country.

Last week, AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE and REUTER, quoting a Thai military source, reported that more than 40 people had died in a clash last month between pro-democracy demonstrators and Vientiane troops. The news agencies said about 1,500 people demonstrated in a township in Xieng Khouang province in northern Laos between March 11 and 13, calling for greater democracy and immediate action to solve the country's economic problems.

They said about 35 protesters, mostly Hmong minority people, and seven government soldiers were killed during the clash.

Thai military leaders have publicly been reticent about the issue, only denying any Thai involvement in such incidents.

Suchinda made his statement after meeting with Lao Ambassador to Thailand Khamphan Simmalavong who is due to complete his 13-year term late this month. The newly-appointed army chief said Khamphan met him to bid farewell but did not mention the pro-democracy campaign.

When a reporter said there have been allegations about Thai involvement in the campaign, Suchinda asserted: "Who said so? Perhaps they are just birds and crows making noises." He said it was not necessary for Thailand to formally deny involvement.

"We don't have to explain our stand to Laos nor should we try to improve Thai-Lao understanding. The incidents have nothing to do with us and Laos and no one ever said we are involved," Suchinda said.

Army spokesman Lt Gen [Lieutenant General] Narudon Detpradiyut last week described as "baseless" allegations that Thailand support the move for political changes in Laos, AFP and REUTER reported.

Sitthi, Turkish Foreign Minister Discuss Trade

BK0205081590 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 2 May 90

[Excerpt] Visiting Turkish Foreign Minister Ali Bozer has proposed that Thailand use his nation as a springboard to Eastern European counties. Mr. Bozer made the proposal during his meeting with Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila early this week for talks on the expansion of trade and investment cooperation between the two countries. Director General of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department Somphong Faichampa quoted Mr. Bozer as saying that prospects are bright for both countries to join the Eastern European market as the region is very much in need of consumer and agricultural products.

This is the second visit to Thailand in three months by Mr. Bozer, who will end the trip here today. During the meeting, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi also asked Turkey to support Thailand's nomination of its Ambassador to Moscow Manatphat Chuto as an applicant for the next executive secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, or ESCAP. [passage omitted]

PLO Economic Group Arrives; To Meet Officials

BK0205011290 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 May 90 p 2

[Text] An economic affairs delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) arrived here yesterday for talks with senior Thai officials about the possibility of purchasing rice and selling oil products, official sources said. Headed by Abu-al-'Ala, who is in charge of economic affairs for the PLO Council, the four-member delegation winged in from Ho Chi Minh City after visiting Japan and Vietnam.

The delegates are due to meet Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin, Commerce Permanent Secretary Phatchara Itsarasena and PTT [Petroleum Authority of Thailand] Governor Anat Aphaphirom as well as other dignitaries including the deputy parliament speaker and Armed Forces Chief-of-Staff. They are also expected to discuss with officials concerned their intention to buy up to one million tons of Thai rice and to directly supply the Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT) with crude oil and petroleum products.

Here for a four-day visit, the delegates were scheduled to have a working dinner last night with Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan.

Vice Premier Chawalit Named Senate 'Whip'

BK0205031590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 May 90 p 2

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut has been appointed chairman of the Senate Coordinating Committee or Senate "whip," replacing Deputy Prime Minister Thianchai Sirisamphan.

Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said he appointed the former army chief as Senate whip simply because Gen [General] Chawalit is a senator. The former Senate whip, Gen Thianchai, is an MP [member of Parliament].

Cabinet Approves Drafts of Antidrug Bills

BK0205025590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 May 90 p 1

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved drafts of two anti-drug bills that would allow authorities to seize assets of drug traffickers and would require drug addicts to undergo rehabilitation.

The first bill would allow authorities to seize all property a suspect has obtained in the last two years unless it can be shown that the property was acquired legally.

The other bill, if enacted, would give law enforcement officials the authority to force all drug addicts into rehabilitation for six months. That period could be extended to a maximum of two years.

Vietnam

Vo Chi Cong Delivers Speech at VFF Plenum

BK0105145190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Speech by Vo Chi Cong, CPV Political Bureau member and chairman of the Council of State, at the Third Plenum of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee held in Hanoi from 24 to 27 April, date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The Third Plenum of the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] Central Committee is of important significance because it was convened immediately following the Eighth Plenum of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee to study the party's resolution on national and international situations and to discuss the front's work for the days ahead. I am convinced that this important plenum will create conditions for the VFF to satisfactorily fulfill its mission in spite of the current complicated and tense situation.

After one year or more of implementing the program of action set forth by the Third VFF Congress, the front has made positive progress as follows: it has organized and motivated all strata of the people to actively contribute opinions for the amendment of a number of laws, including the law on people's council elections and the law on organization of people's councils and people's committees. The front organizations at all levels have organized consultative meetings to select candidates to the elections of people's committees at three levels, thus guaranteeing conditions for everything to be carried out in a democratic atmosphere and with positive results. The front has taken the intiative in helping local authorities initiate various revolutionary mass movements to participate in the management of state affairs. As striking examples, one can cite the mass movement to join hands with public security forces in a nationwide crime fighting and crime prevention campaign and the mass movement to assist people in areas hit by such natural calamities as typhoons and floods.

The front has also contributed suggestions for the improvement of the rear-army service and has motivated the people to implement the policy toward social welfare recipients. A number of public assistance programs have been formulated to assist needy families, helpless people, and the handicapped. Funds have also been raised to care for the elderly.

It is very encouraging to note that the front has continued shifting its activities to villages and city wards, regarding populated areas as key places for the front to devote efforts to resolving burning issues related to the promotion of the welfare of the people, democracy, and a new life. As a result, the front's organizations have developed a number of effective self-help and self-management pilot programs to further implement socialist democracy and consolidate the all-people solidarity bloc.

On behalf of the CPV Central Committee and the Council of State, I warmly commend and praise the front committees at all levels, particularly the grass-roots level, and front cadres at all echelons for their achievements and efforts. Nonetheless, it must be said that the front's work has not been carried out uniformly, the number of good deeds and good models is still limited, and no system has been designed to coordinate action between the front's organizations themselves as well as between the front and local administrative organs. In many localities, officials in charge still do not know how to organize the front's activities and leave everything to the contingent of specialists, which, in some localities, is small in size and lacks expertise. It is my hope that your debates at this plenum will help you draw good experiences necessary for your future activities.

Comrade Dao Duy Tung has thoroughly briefed the plenum on the international situation. I only want to give you a general picture as follows: At present, the socialist countries have been caught up in an unprecedentedly serious, general crisis. This critical situation has had a negative impact on the world revolutionary movement. Difficulties in the socialist countries are being exploited to the full by the imperialist and reactionary forces, which are seeking to intensify their intervention and sabotage in an attempt to eliminate socialism by means of their "peaceful evolution" strategy. We are convinced socialism will certainly surmount all trials, step by step overcome difficulties, and continue its advance. Although many difficulties still lie ahead, socialism will certainly continue its advance. This is an evolutionary law of mankind's history.

Regarding the domestic situation, we are very pleased to note that after three years of implementing the renovation cause set forth by the Sixth CPV Congress we have scored significant achievements in improving the economic structure, developing the multicomponent commodity-based economy, revising the economic management mechanism, gradually eliminating the subsidies system and shifting to socialist business accounting, expanding foreign economic relations, strengthening the national defense strategy, and maintaining social security and order. Along with renovating the economic domain, we have positively carried out renovation in the political field by broadening democracy within the party and in society. We have initially improved the party leadership, activities of popular elected agencies, state management, and activities of the VFF and other mass organizations and so forth. The National Assembly and the Council of State have promulgated many laws and regulations on socioeconomic management on the basis of broadening democracy and ensuring the citizen's rights and obligations.

We have scored many significant initial achievements in various fields, especially in the economic domain. This has promoted the people's enthusiasm and their confidence in the renovation cause. However, we are still facing immediate difficulties because our nation has not yet overcome the current socioeconomic crisis. To ensure a further advancement of our revolutionary cause, it is necessary for our entire party and people to strengthen their unity to carry out pressing tasks to stabilize the socioeconomic situation. We must also continue to lead our renovation undertaking a vigorous step further, thereby contributing effectively to the cause of building and defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

Dear comrades, the situation at home and abroad requires the VFF to carry out new, very heavy tasks. The most important task for the front now is to continue developing the tradition of national unity, the spirit of defending national independence and sovereignty, and the existing brilliant spirit of internationalism. It is also necessary for the front to strengthen the worker-peasant-intellectual alliance. It must consolidate unity among the people's strata, ethnic minority and religious groups, personalities and overseas Vietnamese who want to make contributions to building the country. It does this by making all of them clearly understand the current situation and firmly grasp the party and state stance, thereby creating a political consensus and determination among the people to firmly advance along the socialist path and resolutely implement the party and state policy on renovation. It is necessary to encourage them, together with the party and state, to triumphantly carry out pressing tasks to firmly maintain political stability—an essential factor for developing the socioeconomic situation.

To fulfill these tasks, the front must continue to renovate its work content, activities, organization, and cadre-related tasks. In the present situation as well as in any other revolutionary stages, unity is a formula for all success. As Uncle Ho taught us: Unity, unity, great unity. Success, success, great success.

Solidarity must be based on the expansion of socialist democracy and the implementation of correct policies and lines of the party and state. As a result, the front is charged with the very heavy duty of collecting the people's views and helping the party and state formulate lines, policies, and laws. During 1990, the front should collect the people's views on the draft political platform and the strategy of socioeconomic development; it should then actively contribute to amending the 1980 Constitution of our country in a fundamental and comprehensive manner.

As the largest politico-social organization encompassing several member organizations, the front must implement well its function of coordinating and unifying the activities among the member organizations and between itself and the administration at all levels. The front must vigorously shift its activities to the grass-roots level and gradually change its operations from being mainly the activities of full-time cadres to those chiefly based on part-time cadres and collaborators, thus creating revolutionary mass movements. In this connection, full-time cadres must be selected from among those competent people enjoying prestige over the masses. The front cadres of higher echelons must devote more time to staying close to grass-roots installations and to caring comprehensively for the livelihood of the people in residential areas. They should go deep among the people to motivate the elderly people, important personalities, intellectuals, industrialists and traders, and notables of ethnic minority people, religious dignitaries, overseas Vietnamese, and others.

If the front activities are to be renovated, the party must primarily renovate its leadership over the mission and organization of the front. Party committee echelons from the central down to the grass-roots levels must clearly realize and implement well the party role as both member and leader of the front. As member of the front, the party must debate democratically and dialogue on an equal footing with the front in conducting various operations. As a leader of the front, the party must make its positions and policies clear, listen to the views of other front members, and lead the coordination and unification of operations among front members and between the front and the administration. It must establish regulations, patterns, and systems of work between party committee echelons and the standing committees of the front at all levels. It must conduct basic and advanced training for the contingent of cadres, amend and supplement the policy toward the front cadres, and eliminate all irrational differences in the remuneration of cadres of the party and administration and cadres performing tasks related to the masses.

Gentlemen, the great all-people solidarity front founded and led by President Ho Chi Minh has cooperated with the party to make the August Revolution a success and to win glorious victories in the resistance struggles. Now, the Vietnam Fatherland Front resolves to cooperate with the party and state to bring the strength of all our people into play to actively carry out renovation, surmount all difficulties, and score new and even greater achievements in building and defending the socialist fatherland.

Party Organizational Department Meets 25-27 Apr

BK0105101990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] The Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee's Organizational Department held a conference from 25-27 April with the participation of various comrades—such as the deputy secretaries in charge of organization of various provincial and city party organizations and special zone party committees, the party committee secretaries of various central-level organs, the heads of the organizational sections of various ministries, and representatives of the many localities throughout the country—to provide guidance for activities in preparation for the holding of party congresses at various levels and the national party congress; to recommend ways to select people to the seventh CPV Central Committee and to the executive committees of party organizations at various levels; and to contribute opinions to the draft of the directive on holding party congresses at various levels in preparation for the Seventh CPV Congress, and to the plan for party-building for the period between now and the national party congress. Comrade Nguyen Duc Tam, member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the CPV Central Committee, and head of the CPV Central Committee Organizational Department, presided over the conference.

The conference held that this time the party organization congresses at various levels must attain the primary target for consolidating and improving the leadership skills of various grass-roots party organizations and for strengthening unity and singlemindedness within the party. The party congresses at various levels must discuss and make suggestions to the many draft documents of the national CPV congress delegates such as on the political program, socioeconomic strategy, political report, recapitulative report on party building, and the draft of the revised party statute. They must elect members [to the national party congress], discuss their plans of activity for submission to higher-level party congresses, sum up their activities in their recent term of office, decide on political tasks to be carried out in their next terms of office, elect new executive committees for their party organizations, and discuss the standard operating procedures for the party committees at various levels, especially for the Seventh CPV Central Committee Congress.

The conference also clearly defined the responsibility of the party organizations at various levels for selecting delegates to the party congresses at various levels. In order achieve realistic results, preparations for the party congresses at various levels must be linked with the implementation of the party Central Committee's eight plenum resolution and there must be plans for party building between now and the national party congress.

While preparing the party congresses at various levels, all sectors must reexamine and adopt measures to solve those urgent tasks still in backlog, be determined to overcome mistakes and shortcomings within the party, promptly examine and deal with those deflections and wrong-doings in ideological thinking—corruption, bribe taking, arbitrariness, despotism, bullying of the masses, departmentalism, nepotism, and creating disunity. The party building task must be carried out with clear-cut objectives aimed chiefly at solving cases of violations already discovered in order to rebuild confidence within the party and among the people.

Trade Union President Writes on Renovation

BK0105091890 Hanoi VNA in English 0734 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 1—The Vietnamese working class is to take the lead in the course of renovation, said Nguyen Van Tu, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions, in his article published by the army paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN today.

His article says: "Vietnam has 4.3 million workers and public employees, some 1.64 million more than 1976, the first year after South Vietnam's liberation. The production sector accounts for 2.7 million workers, about 900,000 more than 1976. The country has 1.7 million technical workers including 854,000 graduates from secondary technical schools, 480,000 graduates from universities and colleges, and more than 6,000 masters of sciences and holders of PhD degrees. Besides, there are some two million workers working at small industrial and handicraft establishments in the non-state sectors."

The article says that the working class is the leading and fundamental force of the socialist revolution. It has made considerable and worthy contributions to the major changes of all revolutionary stages in Vietnam. It is now taking the lead in the renovation of managerial mechanism and in the struggle against all negative manifestations in the socio-economic life.

The contingent of intellectuals and scientific and technical workers is part of the working class, the article goes on. It highlights the active contributions of this contingent to scientific researches and [words indistinct] to production and daily life, especially in the fields of capital construction, energy, engineering, electronics, informatique [as received] and defence industry.

The article deems it necessary to make the working class and their trade unions ever stronger, further consolidate the relations between the working masses and the party, inculcate in the masses the lines and policies of the party and the state, especially the resolution of the party Central Committee's eighth plenum, and constantly take the course of renovation charted by the party forward in the interests of the working people and the victory of socialism.

Ho Chi Minh City Chairman Reviews Achievements

BK0105114990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 29 Apr 90

[From the press review program for 29 April]

[Text] Marking the 15th anniversary of the liberation of South Vietnam, HANOI MOI today carries a recent interview with Ho Chi Minh City people's committee chairman Nguyen Vinh Nghiep on the current and future situation of the city.

Answering a question on the most outstanding revolutionary achievements scored by the city in the 15 years since the liberation, Comrade Nguyen Vinh Nghiep said: The most remarkable revolutionary achievements of the city can be seen in its successes in developing the economy, in improving the people's daily life, in strengthening the management mechanism, and in maintaining political security and social order and safety. Industrial production, especially the production of processed goods, consumer goods, and goods for export, has developed vigorously and accounts for one-third of national industrial output—a large proportion of the gross social product as well as of the national income. The city has achieved an annual increase of gross social product by nine percent and of national income by seven percent.

The production in agro-forestry-fishery items, the establishment of a food belt and a zone for industrial crops, and the processing of goods for export have been closely combined with the building of a new rural area in the city suburbs. The city's foreign economic relations have developed satisfactorily, especially export-import and tourism. In 1989 alone, the city earned more than 338 million rubles from export while spending 240 million rubles for imported goods. The city is striving to gain superiority in the market and to expand economic joint ventures. This has significantly accelerated the socioeconomic development program, especially in investment and establishment of export-import agencies. Regarding trade and services, the city has seriously eliminated the subsidized management system while gradually restoring traditional trade, business, credits, services, and tourism, thus creating new prospects for the economy.

Commenting on the city's orientation for socioeconomic development in the future, Comrade Nguyen Vinh Nghiep said: First, the city has to develop the commodity-based economy in the direction of establishing industrial, financial, trade, business, and other service centers in order to build the city as an important regional foreign economic relations center. Second, the city has to implement social policies on the relocation of labor and the population, on the Hoa [Chinese] people, and on overseas Vietnamese; and policies on enhancing the people's intellectual standard, maintaining social justice, and strengthening the role of the family in the social organization. Third, the city has to develop the socioeconomic situation in close association with the region and the country, especially with the B-2 zone. Fourth, the city has to renovate the state management in the direction of strengthening state jurisdiction and in conformity with the commodity-based economy and marketing and planning.

State Council Inspects Hanoi Law Enforcement

BK0105102490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] From 20 to 28 April, a Council of State inspection team led by Comrade Nguyen Thi Dinh, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairwoman of the Council of State, inspected the handling of violations of the law and law enforcement by the public security, procuratory, juridical, and judicial sectors in Hanoi.

While on its inspection tour, the team had a working session with the standing bodies of the municipal people's council and people's committee, various internal security branches, representatives of the many branches, sectors, and mass organizations in the municipality—including Hai Ba Trung precinct, Thanh Tri district, Van Mieu ward, Dong Da precinct, Tien Phong neighborhood in Me Linh district, the municipal temporary detention center, and the cultural reeducation camp. According to the inspection group, in the past various international security organs of Hanoi municipality have closely cooperated with one another in launching many crackdowns on criminals. The task of detecting and investigating criminal cases has produced good results.

Despite their efforts, these internal security branches have still displayed numerous deficiencies and shortcomings in their activities. They have failed to pay appropriate attention to detecting and dealing with violations against democratic principles; to cope with various administrative, cultural, and social problems; and to deal with the question of urban administration. The rate of on-the-spot arrests is still high. Cases of mistaken arrests, detentions beyond lawful time limits, and judgments not according to the law on criminal procedures continue to exist. The execution of court rulings has not been good enough. Over the past 15 months, there have been 247 cases of cadres and employees of various internal security branches violating unit discipline and the law. Of these 247 cases, nine have been brought before court, and 238 have required disciplinary and administrative actions.

The inspection team noted and cited the many improvements and achievements of Hanoi municipality, including various internal security branches, localities, and establishments in the enforcement and maintenance of law. Compared with previous inspection drives, those improvements and results are regarded as positive and uniform. These have helped gradually put law enforcement activities in Hanoi on the right track. They have initially generated a mass movement to live and work according to the law, thus contributing to the many changes for the better in various areas—political, economic, and social—in the municipality.

Dinh Nho Liem Speaks at UN Economic Meeting

BK0105075590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Report on address by First Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem at the 27 April special UN meeting on international economic cooperation]

[Text] After welcoming the initiative to convene the special meeting on economic cooperation, and after greeting the admission of the Republic of Namibia into the United Nations, Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem assessed the present favorable conditions and problems in international economic relations, especially the pressing requirements for developing countries.

After analyzing the socioeconomic problems of developing countries in the 1980's, Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem clearly stated: Many developing countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America remain the victims of imperialist policies of intervening in other countries' internal affairs. The outdated vestiges of cold war such as political sanctions, economic embargoes, and so on have deprived these countries of opportunities for economic development. He stressed: Expanding economic cooperation is an objective necessity for developing countries in which regional or subregional cooperation is a vigorous trend resulting from favorable factors of geography and communications and transportation, and from similarities in historical, economic, and social conditions.

Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem continued: This month, 45 years ago, World War II ended in Europe, and three months afterward in Asia and the Pacific. During the past 45 years, many countries in the world, including the Asia and Pacific region, enjoyed peace for development. On the contrary, the Vietnamese people had to conduct successive and extremely fierce wars for independence, freedom, and national unification. In the past 10 years, they have been victimized by cruel political and economical envelopment.

For this reason, the Vietnamese people, more than anyone else, want favorable international conditions for firmly preserving peace in order to build and defend their country, stabilize their lives, develop their economy, and, at the same time, contribute to the common struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism in the world. Nothing can deter us from this lofty goal. In the past three years, we have carried out comprehensive renovation. Economically, we have reformed our structure and have created conditions for every economic sector to develop, focussing on the domains of grain, food products, and consumer and export goods. We have eliminated the system of bureaucratic centralism and subsidization; applied the market-oriented mechanism in combination with large-scale plans; and expanded our economic relations with other countries.

Thanks to renovation, we have initially scored some very important socioecomic achievements. If, during 1986-88, the inflation figure was in fact three digits, it has definitely decreased since mid-1989. Prices have begun to stabilize. If, for several consecutive decades, Vietnam had to import grain regularly, it is now exporting some of its grain. The relations of cooperation with other countries have expanded. Vietnam's relatively favorable Law on Investment has established hundreds of joint enterprises.

These initial important results demonstrate that the situation in Vietnam is stabilizing and our renovation line and steps are correct. However, we are facing many problems due to our low level of development, weak infrastructures, and rapid population growth, in addition to the continued envelopment of and embargoes against our country. Yet, for the sake of national development, we have persisted in our renovation and have striven to develop comprehensively our relations with all countries throughout the world without discrimination, but on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

Economically, Vietnam is a country of rich resources. It lies on the international axis of communication and is situated in a region that is developing dynamically. It possesses an abundance of diligent people with some standard of education. Our door is wide open to all those seeking cooperation, to all close and distant fraternal and friendly countries, and to all international organizations. Vietnam is determined to cooperate with the world community in its struggle for a world of peace, friendship, cooperation, equality, and mutual benefit for the sake of progress of all of mankind.

Hanoi Cites 'Conflicts' Between Workers, Czechs

BK0105152090 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] According to reports from Prague, many regrettable conflicts between the Vietnamese workers and some Czech citizens have recently occurred in the Czechoslovak Federal Republic—new name of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. These conflicts have suddenly increased and taken place mostly between the Vietnamese workers and the Czech prisoners and convicts who were recently released under the Czech president's amnesty order. Many of the Vietnamese workers became the targets of violent acts and assaults by the aforementioned people who were even armed at times.

The situation worsened due to lack of objectivity on the part of some newspapers published in Prague. As a result of lack of security and no assurance for life safety, many Vietnamese workers in Prague stopped working in protest. On 18 April, the head of the Czech Foreign Ministry's Department Number Four and the chairman of the seventh precinct people's committee in Prague invited a representative of our embassy there to the ministry to inform him of the measures that have been and would be taken by the Czech side to ensure security for the

Vietnamese workers. He asserted that it was not a discriminatory attitude on the part of the Czechoslovak Government because those villain Czechs could not represent the Czech people.

Some of the factories have hired buses to take the Vietnamese workers back and forth to work in the factories and do not schedule them for the evening and night work shifts. The Vietnamese units that stopped work on 18 April because of insecurity, returned to work on 19 April. Some newspapers in Prague reported and commented on the events more fairly on 19 April.

Le Quang Dao Receives PLO Economic Delegation

BK0105153190 Hanoi VNA in English 1440 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 1—Le Quang Dao, vice president of the State Council and chairman of the National Assembly received at the Presidential Palace on April 30 a visiting economic delegation of the State of Palestine led by Abu-al-'Ala, head of the Economic and Planning Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

At the reception, Abu-al-'Ala expressed his profound gratitude to the Vietnamese people for their valuable support and assistance to the Palestinian cause for national liberation. He highly valued the important achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people in national construction and defense over the past 45 years as well as in the current process of renovation, describing them as Vietnam's active contributions to the common struggle for peace, national independence, and development.

Chairman Le Quang Dao warmly welcomed the first visit of the economic delegation, which he said would start a new field of cooperation between the two countries. He highly appreciated the undaunted uprising of the Palestinian people in the Israeli-occupied territories, and reaffirmed the strong support of the Vietnamese party, government, and people for the just struggle of the fraternal Palestinians under the PLO leadership for their sacred national rights, including the right to self-determination and the right to establish an independent and sovereign Palestine.

Also on hand at the reception was Palestinian Ambassador to Vietnam Sa'id Khalil al-Masri.

Friendship Group Sends Sympathy Message to China

BK0105031890 Hanoi VNA in English 1620 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 30—The Vietnam-China Friendship Association has sent a message of sympathy to its Chinese counterpart over the heavy losses in lives and property caused by recent continous snow falls in Tibet autonomous region and an earthquake in Qinghai Province.

It wishes the people in those areas early recovery to normal life.

Australia

Japanese Defense Chief Arrives for Talks

OW0105014190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0040 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Sydney, May 1 KYODO—Japan's Defense Agency Chief Yozo Ishikawa arrived early Tuesday in Sydney on the first leg of a five-day tour of Australia, Thailand and Malaysia. Ishikawa is en route to Canberra, where he is scheduled to meet Australian Defense Minister Robert Ray in the parliament later in the day.

Ishikawa is the first director general of Japan's Defense Agency to visit Australia. He is expected to exchange views on defense policies and the situation in the Asia-Pacific region with top defense officials of the countries he visits.

The last time a Japanese Defense Agency chief visited the region was in 1988, when then Director General Tsutomu Kawara officially visited Indonesia and Singapore. Ishikawa will return to Tokyo on Saturday.

Meets With Defense Minister

OW0105074290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0705 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Canberra, May 1 KYODO—Japanese Defense Agency Director General Yozo Ishikawa and his Australian counterpart Robert Ray agreed on Tuesday to continue financial and other support for U.S. bases stationed in their respective nations, Japanese officials said.

In a meeting at the Parliament Building in Canberra, Ishikawa and Ray agreed that the U.S. troop presence in the Asia-Pacific region is important to ensure stability of the area.

Ishikawa, who is on a two-day visit to Australia that ends Wednesday, also said Japan intends to share more of the cost of maintaining U.S. troops in Japan as part of efforts to encourage the U.S. military presence, the officials said.

Ray told Ishikawa that Australia, on its part, will continue to support the U.S. military presence in the region by providing funds to upkeep the Naval Communications Center at Northwest Cape. The facility is used by the U.S. Navy for communications with its submarine fleet.

While describing Japan's defense policy as appropiate, Ray said that some Australian people fear Japan would some day again become a military power and a threat to the Asia-Pacific region.

Both defense ministers also agreed to promote exchanges of military personnel and researchers to deepen mutual understanding on bilateral security policies, the officials said.

After leaving here Wednesday, Ishikawa is scheduled to visit Thailand and Malaysia and return to Japan on Sunday.

Opposition Criticizes Government Foreign Policy

BK3004070890 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Federal opposition leader Dr. Hewson has called on the government to review its ban on defense cooperation with Fiji imposed after that country's first military coup in 1987. Dr. Hewson made the call in a statement in which he said the government's foreign policy was showing serious signs of confused priorities, the absence of coherent regional strategy, and a damaging lack of realism.

He said the government should abandon what he called the [words indistinct] approach to Fiji, saying it was now looking toward the countries such as China and France to fill the gap in defense cooperation left by Australia.

The opposition leader also criticized the government announcement of a sale of 50 Mirage fighter planes to Pakistan, describing it was ill-timed, ineptly handled, and inadequately explained. He said the government should explain why the decision to sell the planes was made at the time of high tension between Pakistan and India over their Kashmir Valley dispute.

Dr. Hewson also called on the prime minister, Mr. Hawke, to visit Papua New Guinea soon to repair what he called the damage caused by the foreign affairs minister, Senator Evans, during a visit last week.

He described public statements by Senator Evans on how Papua New Guinea should take tough economic decisions as a diplomatic disaster.

Justice Minister Views Arrest of Heroin Importer

BK0205085690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0828 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Canberra, May 2 (AFP)—The top importer of heroin into Australia has been arrested in an international drug bust in Thailand, Justice Minister Michael Tate said here Wednesday. He said the arrest Tuesday of Prasat Yuyen believed responsible for bringing in hundreds of kilograms (pounds) of heroin, would "shatter and demoralise"" the Australian drug network.

"Australian intelligence makes this man the number one importer of heroin into Australia during the 1980's," Mr. Tate told reporters. He said he expected arrests to follow in Australia.

Authorities in Bangkok said Mr. Prasat and Sura Koethong both Thais aged 48, were arrested with about 33 kilogrammes (73 pounds) of heroin base after a raid on a house in Nonthaburi Province, 20 kilometers (12 miles) north of the Thai capital before dawn Tuesday.

They were charged with possessing 74 packs of heroin base, which Australian officials said was worth 25 million U.S. dollars.

The two suspects were preparing to hand over the heroin base, from which the powdered form of the drug is made, to foreign customers who planned to smuggle the drug into the United States, Thai police said. They said Mr. Sura had confessed to drug-running while Mr. Prasat denied any knowledge of the heroin.

The arrests followed a joint operation involving Thailand's narcotics squad, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration and the Australian Federal Police.

Federal Police here said Mr. Prasat was one of the world's top heroin traffickers and was believed to be linked to 10 major shipments into Australia.

Mr. Tate said the heroin seized Tuesday, which reportedly came from the golden triangle where Thailand, Burma and Laos meet, was destined for Australia.

"I am quite confident that the disruption of this supply will throw the distribution network into disarray and that will itself give us leads which we will follow up," he said.

Officials said Mr. Prasat was arrested at Sydney Airport in 1982 on a drug importing charge. He was acquitted but deported as an illegal immigrant.

"His links with Australia are very firmly established and that is why we are so delighted to have this joint operation finish so successfully," Mr. Tate said.

Fiji

Government Closes Regional News Service

BK0205061090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0603 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Suva, May 2 (AFP)—Fiji authorities Wednesday [2 May] ordered the closure of a regional news service and expelled two West Germans involved with it in a dispute that stemmed from calls for greater freedom of information.

The Pacific Islands News Service (PACNEWS) and Pacbroad, the Pacific Broadcasting Training and Development Project, were told to wind up their operations in Suva by May 18. Both are run by the Pacific Island Broadcasting Association [PIBA] and are funded mainly by the Friederich Ebert Stiftung Foundation of West Germany.

Expelled were broadcaster Hendrik Bussiek, 45, and engineer Hendrik Kettner, 42, who previously worked for the Sender Freies Berlin (Radio West Berlin) before coming to Suva in 1985.

Fiji Foreign Affairs Secretary Robin Yarrow told the foundation that it had breached the terms of reference by expanding its original broacasting training facilities into a fully fledged news service.

PIBA and the Pacific Islands News Association have been under attack here since their annual conference in Honiara last October called for greater freedom of information in Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

Mr. Bussiek told a news conference that their expulsion followed months of tensions with the Fiji administration installed after two military coups here in 1987.

"Over past few months we never really knew whether we would be here the next day or not," he said.

Mr. Bussiek said Radio Australia and Radio New Zealand had offered temporary shelter for Pacbroad and PACNEWS. But he said that in the long term, the projects would be shifted to either Tonga or Papua New Guinea. Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and Western Samoa were also keen, he said.

Nauru

Government Files Suit Over Phosphate Mining

BK0205070490 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Nauru has formally filed a damages suit with the International Court of Justice in The Hague seeking U.S. $56 million from Australia in compensation for the removal of its top soil. Nauru wants compensation from Australia, New Zealand, and Britain to rehabilitate its landscape after the island's phosphate deposits were stripped for commercial fertilizer during the early part of the century.

The three countries have denied liability.

Diplomats in Wellington say Australia has until 21 January next year to file its reply with the international court. An inquiry has put the cost of rehabilitating Nauru's top soil at U.S. $170 million—three times the sum being sought from Australia.

The Pacific News Agency, PACNEWS, said it has not been confirmed whether Nauru will be seeking similar compensation amounts from Britain and New Zealand.

New Zealand

Labor Party Accused of High-Level Corruption

BK3004071890 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] A political storm has erupted in New Zealand following accusations of corruption at high levels in the Labor Party government. A New Zealand television program said secret share accounts had been set up in 1986 for two senior politicians in the government at that time and that several leading business figures had contributed to a secret Labor Party election campaign fund.

The program claimed that those who had contributed (?to) the fund had profited from the latest sale of government-owned assets.

New Zealand's prime minister, Mr. Geoffrey Palmer, reacted angrily, saying the program was the most dishonest, distorted, and deceitful that he had seen in a long time. However, the acting opposition leader, Mr. Don McKinnon, said that an independent public inquiry should be called to investigate the allegations.

Bank Puts Television Network Into Receivership

BK0205014690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0113 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Wellington, May 2 (AFP)—Westpac Banking Corp. on Wednesday [2 May] put New Zealand's TV3, whose major owner is NBC of the United States, into receivership. TV3 Spokesman David Nicholson said Westpac withdrew banking facilities Wednesday.

The future of the nationwide network was unclear as senior officials held a crisis meeting. Westpac said it would make a statement later in the day and would not disclose the amount it was owed.

Papua New Guinea

Appointment of Deputy Prime Minister Announced

BK2904124990 Hong Kong AFP in English 1218 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Port Moresby, April 29 (AFP)—Ted Diro, the leader of the People's Action Party (PAP), has been appointed deputy prime minister of Papua New Guinea, Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu announced here Sunday [29 April]. Mr. Diro replaces fellow PAP member Akoka Doi, who takes over Mr. Diro's former portfolio as minister for state. The prime minister said Mr. Diro would also handle Mr. Doi's former Ministry of Public Service.

Observers say Mr. Diro's ascendency is the result of increasing pressure on Mr. Namaliu to elevate the leader of his strongest coalition partner to the nation's number two position. It also follows a number of defections which have boosted the strength of the PAP.

An Australian-trained soldier, Mr. Diro was the first head of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force at independence in 1975.

BRA Agrees to Peace Talks on Neutral Ground

BK0105121290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1200 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Port Moresby, May 1 (AFP)—Secessionist militants on Bougainville Island have agreed to hold peace talks on neutral ground with the Papua New Guinea Government, officials said Tuesday [1 May].

Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu said a letter signed by Francis Ona, supreme commander of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA), "indicated they are prepared to hold negotiations on a neutral venue."

Later, Deputy Prime Minister Ted Diro called for the suspension of the North Solomons (Bougainville) provincial premier, Joseph Kabui, for actively supporting secession.

Mr. Namaliu said his government was committed to a negotiated settlement of the crisis on Bougainville, where a cease-fire in March halted a 16-month secessionist war waged by the BRA that left more than 80 people dead. The prime minister also rejected the further use of military force.

Mr. Namaliu said that May 13 was the target date for talks to begin, but admitted a venue had still to be agreed to. Mr. Namaliu left Tuesday for a trip to the United States. He is expected to return on May 12.

The BRA had earlier rejected holding peace talks in the Solomon's capital of Honiara saying any talks should be held at Panguna, the site of the giant Bougainville copper mine, whose closure last year harmed the Papua New Guinea economy.

Mr. Diro said he wanted Mr. Kabui suspended and charged with misconduct in office because he had approached the Solomon Islands' prime minister, Solomon Mamaloni, and other governments requesting the recognition of Bougainville as an independent state.

Militant landowners, after first only demanding massive compensation for use of their land by Bougainville Copper Ltd., later broadened their cause to secession from Papua New Guinea.

The BRA currently controls Bougainville following the complete withdrawal of all government security forces from the island since the March cease-fire.

Tonga

Government, Brunei Establish Diplomatic Ties

BK0105155790 Hong Kong AFP in English 1535 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Suva, May 1 (AFP)—The South Pacific Kingdom of Tonga has established diplomatic relations with the Southeast Asian Sultanate of Brunei, Radio Tonga reported Tuesday.

The radio, monitored here by the Pacific News Exchange Service PACNEWS, said both countries agreed to cooperate in trade and investment.